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# The Playground

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# The Playground

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# The Playground

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AUGUST, 1922

## The World at Play

**Broadcasting Play.**—Better Citizenship through Organized Play and Recreation was the topic of an address delivered by Mr. Sidney A. Teller, of the Irene Kaufmann Settlement, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, over the Westinghouse Radio. Mr. John Bradford, of Community Service, recently spoke of the progress of the play movement from the Newark Radio Station.

**War Heroes Honored.**—Honor has been paid Sergeant James F. Healey, the first boy in Roslindale, Massachusetts, to be killed in the world war, by dedicating to his memory the former Washington Street playground. Over 1,000 persons were present at the dedication, which was under the auspices of the James C. Shea Post, American Legion. Prior to these ceremonies, a square at Mount Hope was dedicated to Albert Jensen, another world war hero.

**Centers of Life in Italy.**—*Centri di Vita*—Centers of Life—is the name the Italians give their community centers “because,” writes Mario Giani, who has been influential in organizing these centers in Rome, “they offer to members a pleasant way of living instead of vegetating.”

The committee, of which Mr. Giani is chairman, plans to organize a country-wide movement for establishing “Centers of Life” of three types:

1. Centers in industrial communities
2. Centers in industrial plants
3. General community-wide centers in small towns

**The Community Cottage of France.**—Much has been told in the past few months of community effort in American cities through which volunteers have banded together to provide by the work of their hands playgrounds

and athletic fields constructed from unsightly vacant lots, and community buildings suitable for housing the neighborhood's social and recreational activities.

In France the same spirit of cooperation is not only giving expression to the social instinct but is playing an important part in the rehabilitation program. The May issue of *Our Work* tells pictorially the story of how a French workingman named Knap is helping to solve the housing problem of his country by working out a plan for social or cooperative buildings. He persuades a group of homeless families to devote their Saturday afternoons and Sundays to the construction of cottages and when enough houses are ready they draw lots for them. Besides helping his comrades build houses he gives them lectures on the benefits of cooperative enterprise.

Everyone has a share in the enterprise. The women and girls mix the concrete and help in carrying away empty buckets and doing other parts of the work. When the work is completed the men and women who have worked together celebrate the happy results of their cooperation by a dance.

**The Ideal Recreation Director.**—“All for the Want of a Colored String” is the title of an article from the pen of Helen Durham, appearing in *The Association Monthly* for May. Apologizing for her vanity in attempting to describe the ideal recreation director Miss Durham proceeds to do it in a very delightful and able manner. Any endeavor to reproduce the spirit or content of this article would leave much to be desired. All recreation leaders will find profit in reading it and finding out where the “Colored String” comes in.

**Leisure Time Activities for Colored Citizens.**—Nothing is more significant in the leisure time field than the interest on the part of

colored citizens in having large participation in the community's leisure time program.

Mr. E. T. Attwell, Field Director, Bureau of Colored Work of Community Service, recently addressed a mass meeting of over three thousand people in Greenville, South Carolina. This meeting, said to have been the largest in Greenville since the war days, was held in the interest of colored organizations in the community fund drive. The colored people of Greenville have purchased a community center, have raised \$1,500 in a recent campaign for funds and are now employing a full time Community Service worker.

**Play for the Under-Nourished Child.**—Dr. William Emerson in his book *Nutrition and Growth in Children* just published by D. Appleton and Company emphasizes the importance of exercise and play in the prevention and cure of mal-nutrition. "Many of the nervous breakdowns of later life occur," he writes, "because men and women who failed to form the habit of play in childhood pursue their work intensely without recognizing the need for adequate recreation and exercise. The habit of play is a permanent safeguard to health."

"The extent to which adults use exercise and play in their own lives makes it easier for the child to start right, and tends to raise the standards of health for all," in Dr. Emerson's opinion. "Parents who share in the sports and games of their children will come to a better understanding with them in all other matters. It is fortunate that recreation for the adult, which was formerly considered something to be indulged in quietly or even secretly is now coming out in the open and taking its part in every well-planned health program."

**Recreation for the Insane.**—Occupational therapy and similar activities are fast coming to be recognized as factors of primary importance in the rehabilitation of the individual. The part recreational activities can play in rehabilitation work is of no small importance. Increasingly it has been predicted recreation will be widely used in institutions for the feeble-minded and the insane in hospitals of various kinds.

Some interesting experiments have been worked out by a number of Community Serv-

ice workers. One special organizer in recreation has recently been conducting classes at the Huntington, West Virginia, State Hospital for the Insane. Fifteen women from the dementia praecox ward stumbled through the simple gestures of Looby-Loo. Gradually they became adept. They joined in with greater enthusiasm and before long their faces radiated the enjoyment they were deriving from the game.

Next the men had their turn. More active and highly organized games were provided for them and a game called stride ball was introduced for which the local sport shop had donated a basket-ball. Most of the men joined readily in the game and responded quickly to the directions and gestures of the leader.

Dr. L. V. Guthrie, Superintendent of the Huntington State Hospital, is greatly interested in the game work and stated that after the experiment succeeded in securing the results hoped for a special playground director would be provided for the institution to supplement the theatricals and weekly motion pictures which are a part of the program.

**Girls' Day in Salt Lake City.**—High school girls to the number of 2580 participated in Girls' Day at Salt Lake City on May 21st. The program opened with a posture parade by schools, the members of each school wearing their school colors. This was followed by an exhibition of folk dancing. Then came the athletic contests including the fifty yard dash, hurdle jump, standing broad jump, basket ball and baseball.

**Save the Tennis Balls.**—The life of tennis balls for use on tennis courts is very short, but these same balls are unusually good for the play of little children on the playgrounds and on the streets that are roped off for children's play. In Boston Joseph Lee at the time that he was actively leading in the local playground movement asked that these balls be saved for him, and in this way a very large amount of important play equipment was secured for the children of Boston.

**Virginia Extending Physical Education.**—G. C. Throner, Supervisor of Physical Education, State of Virginia, Richmond, Va., writes as follows:

"You may be interested to know that according to division superintendents' reports there are now 2,696 schools, 2,500 rural and 196 urban, having exercises at least three times a week. This means that little better than 40% of our total number of schools, 6,617, have a physical training period. These figures do not quite do justice because I selected only cities employing physical directors in the urban count. I personally know that Emporia, Farmville, Hopewell, Chase City, South Boston and other cities of such size are doing work in physical training. In physical inspection the report is not complete. Today 44 counties and Clifton Forge have reported. Out of a total school population for these places of 164,232 children there were 98,406 given physical inspection this year. I expect to see the total reach 200,000 school children this year.

"In athletics you may know that the University of Virginia has for several years been conducting high school and prep school championship meets at Charlottesville. What is more important to me is the report from the county superintendents showing 38 have county organizations in track, 40 in basket ball and 43 in baseball. There were about eight additional counties reported as being in process of organization at the time the questionnaire was sent."

**Recreation Activities Are Booming in Sacramento.**—Mr. George Sim, Superintendent of Recreation, writes that the city, with a population of 70,000, has 94 baseball teams playing regularly scheduled games each week. One of the McKinley Park soccer teams composed of playground boys grown up, recently won the California State championship in soccer.

An international concert for music week given under the auspices of the State Recreation Department introduced Mexican, Chinese, Scotch, Japanese, Italian, French and Serbian songs, while dancing, piano solos and other musical numbers gave representatives of other nations opportunity for participation.

Tickets have been distributed for grammar school boys and girls, entitling them to free swimming lessons at Riverside Baths, the only charge (\$.10) being for suits.

**Country Club Holds Community Tennis Tournament.**—The Country Club of Oxnard, California, plans to cooperate with Oxnard Community Service in holding a community-wide tennis tournament this summer.

**More Tennis and Golf for Oakland.**—Every boy and girl in the public schools of Oakland, California, above the fifth grade will have a chance to learn to play tennis this summer. So says the department of recreation. Last year instruction was given to 1,350 children but this year there will probably be more than that number. Almost every playground has a dirt court for beginners. Clubs have been formed among the playground boys and girls and among the older girls and women.

There is also going to be more golf played in Oakland this year than ever before, for the city has purchased a tract of land near the Sequoia Country Club and is constructing one of the finest golf links in the country. Eventually the course will consist of 36 holes. A club house with lockers, showers, and lunch facilities is to be built and it is planned to supply camping equipment for overnight parties. A professional golf player will have charge of the links and will give instruction to all who wish to learn.

**Horseshoe Pitching in the Northwest.**—Four states were represented at the three-day horseshoe pitching carnival held this spring in Minneapolis. There were matches to discover the champion woman pitcher and the champion man pitcher of Minnesota and then there was an interstate meet to discover the champion pitcher of the Northwest. Twelve gold and silver medals were awarded.

At the close of the tournament, Frank Jackson, a noted champion from Iowa played exhibition games with other champions.

The winner of the Minnesota State Championship was a boy fourteen years old.

**World Championship Decided.**—The "marble shooting championship of the world" was won at Pershing Field, Jersey City, by Charles (Buster) Rech, aged 14, when he defeated Michael Troiano, of Washington, D. C. Nearly 3,000 boys watched the contest in tense eagerness.

**Free Office Space for Community Service.**—Community Service of Lafayette, Indiana, has been paid the compliment of being given free office space in the beautiful new building that the Brotherhood of Painters, Paperhangiers and Decorators have just built for their headquarters. The building is an unusually fine example of the builders' art, and office space in it represents a generous contribution to Community Service in the shape of rental.

**City of Lake Charles Provides Community Service Office.**—The Organizer at Lake Charles, Louisiana, writes, "When I suggested at the meeting of the temporary committee that the office and other incidental expenses would amount to about \$250.00, and that this be taken care of by the men's clubs and the Chamber of Commerce, Mayor Trott spoke up and said that he thought that the city would be glad to do this. The next day he informed me that the city would provide me with office space and facilities, including a stenographer, and that the city would be only too glad to meet all of the expenses."

**The Hospitality of Washington.**—The steps which have been taken by the state of Washington to provide recreation are outlined as follows by Secretary of State J. Grant Hinkle.

"Our state permits the schoolhouses to be used as community centers and each locality, particularly along the paved highways, is making some portion of land that is accessible to the tourist available for park purposes. This is done for the convenience of automobile tourists for their cooking and sleeping requirements and is meeting with the hearty approval of both those who enjoy them and those who supply them. The small towns advertise by sign boards on either side of their limits that their parks, fuel and water are supplied free of charge and these are appreciated by the stranger."

**Housing and Playgrounds.**—"It shall be unlawful for any person, firm or corporation to erect an apartment or tenement house to accommodate ten families or more unless a part of the land on which such building is located be set aside as a playground for children." This is one of the provisions of a bill intro-

duced recently into the New York State Legislature. This bill provides also that the Board of Estimate and Apportionment of a city, Common Council, Board of Aldermen, or the Board of Trustees shall prescribe rules and regulations for the size and manner of laying out such grounds. This bill represents the growing body of opinion which recognizes that play is one of the necessities of life—especially of child life.

**Six Hundred Acre Reservation on the Hudson River.**—Another piece of beautiful wooded country bordering the Hudson River has been set aside for the enjoyment of the people of New York and New Jersey. Some time ago a big section in the region known as Bear Mountain was opened up by the Palisades Interstate Park Commission. Now six hundred acres of wild mountain country north of West Point have been given to the Park Commission by Dr. Ernest G. Stillman.

**A Noteworthy Gift.**—Mr. Edgar T. Sawyer, president of the Oshkosh Gas Light Company, has announced that he will give the city of Oshkosh, Wisconsin, his \$200,000 mansion. The only condition made by Mr. Sawyer is that the property shall be used for the benefit of the public. The city proposes to use the grounds of the estate as a park and to devote the building largely to social center activities.

**New Tourist Camps.**—A privately-owned tract of land has been secured in Whittier, California, on the main travelled road between Los Angeles and San Diego, to be used as an automobile camp. The Whittier Chamber of Commerce is arranging for the equipment and advertising of the grounds.

A short while ago in Gallup, N. M., the mayor declared a half-holiday, at the suggestion of the McKinley County Chamber of Commerce, to be observed as Tourist Camp Ground Day. The Chamber of Commerce organized a large group of citizens for volunteer labor to construct a camp ground and the job was completed at a saving of \$1,500 to the organization.

**A Park for Salamanca.**—Salamanca, N. Y., is situated in a valley surrounded by beautiful wooded slopes. Recently lumbering interests

acquired one of the mountain sides, threatening to strip it of timber. In order to save the city from this calamity, the Chamber of Commerce purchased the tract, through money in its treasury and volunteer contributions, and the tract is now to be presented to the city as a public park.

**Helping to Seat the Crowd.**—The Leavitt Manufacturing Company, of Urbana, Illinois, makers of Knockdown Bleachers, offer a special service without charge in the planning of seating arrangements for local conditions.

**Developing Natural Play Resources.**—Community Service of Brattleboro, Vermont, prides itself on having made available for play purposes natural advantages heretofore unused. A summer campaign to extend recreation activities to the rural towns in the county has placed emphasis upon using facilities every town has on hand.

"You don't need a lot of money to fix up a playground," says Brattleboro's community director, Frederick K. Brown. "The smallest neighborhood or community can provide some log equipment." Climbing tree, balancing tree, swings and chute-the-chute may all be fashioned from logs. The chute-the-chute is proving to be the most popular piece of log playground apparatus. It is constructed of two logs with two saplings on top, forming a natural groove down which the child slides.

The Connecticut River is a natural resource in which Community Service saw interesting play possibilities. Undergrowth has been cleared away from a spot on the shore, leaving a smooth beach for swimmers and a shady grove for those who do not swim. A foot of sand is transforming a rocky place on the beach into a wading pool. There are to be dressing rooms for men and women, a check room and a diving raft. Water games and sports will be taught by Community Service and with the cooperation of the Red Cross a life saving service will be maintained.

**Largest School Has Great Play Space.**—Plans recently submitted by the Superintendent of School Buildings of New York City provide for a type with seventy-two class rooms. The structure as planned would consist of five stories for two wings and front

while the center would consist of two stories, a great playroom on the first, an auditorium on the second and play space on the auditorium roof. Smaller playrooms and gymnasiums would also be provided, a total area for play and physical training of 38,000 square feet. Superintendent of Schools William L. Ettinger has suggested the erection of play buildings, every floor to be used for play, to meet the crying need for space for the play of New York's children.

**An Athletic Federation for the United States.**—A new organization, the National Amateur Athletic Federation of America, was launched on May 8th, 1922, at a meeting held at the American Red Cross building, at which delegates from practically every sports body in the United States were present. The Federation, according to the July issue of *Mind and Body*, is an outgrowth of a suggestion made last November at the American meeting of the Olympic Association by Secretary of War Weeks.

The President of the United States was chosen honorary president of the new body, while the Secretaries of War and Navy and Col. Robert E. Thompson were named as honorary vice presidents. The active officers chosen were: President, Henry Breckenridge; vice presidents, J. F. Byers, of the United States Golf Association; J. S. Myrick, of the United States Lawn Tennis Association; Gen. P. E. Pierce, of the National Intercollegiate Association; William E. Prout, of the American Athletic Union and Mrs. Herbert Hoover, representing the Girl Scouts of America. Herbert L. Pratt was made treasurer and Elwood S. Brown, secretary.

**Community Service Schools and the Chicago South Park Commission.**—A very practical demonstration of cooperation has been given by the Chicago South Park Commission in offering its splendid facilities to Community Service (Incorporated) for its training schools. Thirteen schools, each covering a period of approximately a month, have been held in the beautifully equipped field houses of the Commission where the gymnasiums and all other facilities have been placed freely at the disposal of the Community Service students and lecturers. Mr. V. K. Brown, Superintendent

of the Playgrounds and Sports Division, through whose instrumentality the use of the buildings has been arranged, has further co-operated with Community Service in lecturing at the schools.

The contribution made Community Service by the Chicago South Park Commission in the use of its property represents more than mere money. It can be thought of only in terms of cooperation, good will, and personal service which cannot be measured in dollars and cents.

**Music in the Court House.**—Minneapolis has just inaugurated a series of noon-hour concerts in the court house. These concerts are under the management of the aldermen, a member of the City Council and a committee from the Civic Music League. Musicians have given their services free to make the series a success. Concerts have been given by the different church choirs, by one of the church glee clubs and by the firemen's band.

The big marble-lined rotunda of the court house lends itself admirably to this purpose. The wide stairway with its many landings provides a fine stage while the floor and the several balconies accommodate the thousands who come in from the factory, store and office during their noon-hour for the relaxation and inspiration of listening to music.

**May Festival Big Event in Middletown, Ohio.**—The annual May festival in Middletown has become the big event of the year's recreation program. This year a crowd of more than five thousand people overflowed the three grandstands and lined the edges of the big athletic field while the children danced their May dances on the green grass. There were eight Maypoles and there was a Queen of the May with all the traditional pomp and ceremony attending her entry and progress. The program gave a chance for the school children and the playground children of all ages to take part. There was a posture parade by schools with a banner for the school that made the best showing. There were Maypole dances and the May pageant for the older children and for the younger children there were singing games and folk dances. The quaint folk dances danced by the younger children all in white were one of the prettiest features of the entire festival. There were old

English dances, Swedish dances, and Danish dances. One dance was taken from the days when the Druids used to dance to frighten away the animals that prowled in the forest. Several were dances which originated in early days as expressions of joy for the return of Spring.

**A Memorial Day Pageant.**—The members of the staff of the Department of Physical Education and Recreation of Ypsilanti, Michigan, were responsible for the very successful pageant staged on Decoration Day under the auspices of the G. A. R. and allied patriotic organizations. There were about fifteen hundred school children and three hundred Signal Corps and American Legion members in the pageant which was witnessed by at least ten thousand people.

**More Storytellers for Boston.**—This summer Boston children are having frequent expeditions into the wonderful land of "Once Upon a Time." Many new storytellers were trained by the course in storytelling and story dramatization conducted in the Dramatic Workshop of Community Service of Boston. Miss Joy Higgins directed the course and Mrs. Margaret Shipman Jameson lectured. The work was under the supervision of Professor George P. Baker of Harvard University.

**May Festival.**—The children of nine neighborhood associations which are under the direction of Community Service of Wilmington, Delaware, united for a May Festival in North Brandywine Park. They had such a good time playing singing games and circle games and competing in active games that they did not realize how much fun 1,500 adults were having watching them. The Maypole dance with its shifting colors was one of the prettiest spectacles Wilmington had seen.

**Portland Hikers Will Have a Hut.**—For a long time the Hikers' Club of Portland, Oregon, Community Service had wanted to put up a cabin or loghouse where hikers who were taking week-end trips might sleep when the weather was too severe to warrant a night under the stars. They had been offered a site, and the men of the club could do all the building, but there remained the question of

supplying material. "We'll put on a show," they finally decided. So a hilarious production of *What Happened to Jones* entertained Portland and also provided the wherewithal for building the hut.

The Hikers' Club, which started with a few members and now has enrolled about one hundred young people, is self supporting. On the first and third Sundays of every month the club covers eight to ten miles of rural trails. Details are given in the local papers before each hike, and all young people interested in joining are cordially invited. On the second and fourth Thursdays of the month the club enjoys a social evening in the Young Women's Christian Association auditorium.

**Storytelling an Unfailing Delight.**—A story club has been formed as part of the activities of Clearfield, Pennsylvania, Community Service. During the spring storytelling hours were held every Saturday morning in each of the town's schools in preparation for the summer's outdoor playground program.

That the children of Clearfield are hungry for the kind of play which it is the purpose of Clearfield Community Service to provide was shown on the first Saturday morning when over two hundred children assembled at the Market Street School House to hear stories and to play games. Three volunteers kept the faces of the children eager and their eyes bright with the stories of *How the Elephant Got*

*his Trunk*, and *How Hans Roth Saved the Town of Solothum*.

**A Memorable Hike.**—There is a Business Woman's Gymnasium Class in Greenville, South Carolina. One of its regular activities for the summer is a Week End Camp. On the afternoon of Easter Saturday, twenty young women of the group, with the Community Service organizer among them, hiked to the top of Paris Mountain. This is a five-mile stretch from the car line—over the top of the world.

Although but a one-night camp experience—for they returned to Greenville Sunday afternoon—it was for many of the girls their first excursion into the real outdoors. Now many a Saturday night this summer will mean for them—a mountain top. Nothing less, ever again!

Another very interesting activity at Greenville was the Easter fete at City Park in which five hundred children took part under the leadership of one of the Community Service workers. Twenty girls who graduated from the Recreation Institute held last June in the community volunteered their services and gave invaluable help. Six of the group costumed as gay clowns, as Puck and Peter Rabbit, told stories to the little folks. The Pied Piper with his music appeared and the children followed him in a picturesque march around the athletic field. Storytelling, games and Easter egg rolling took up the rest of the afternoon.

## The Recreation Congress

A great deal of interest is being expressed over the Recreation Congress to be held in Atlantic City, October 9-12. Replies have been received from superintendents of recreation and recreation commission members, settlement workers, volunteers in the community recreation field, superintendents of schools, representatives of Chambers of Commerce and local organizations of many kinds, all of whom announce their intention of attending the Congress.

In a future issue of *The Playground* information will be given about the program and we shall be able to announce a few of the speakers.

Watch *The Playground* for news of the Congress and write us to send you material as it is issued.

### RECREATION CONGRESS COMMITTEE

One Madison Avenue, New York City



WILLIAM E. HARMON

## William Harmon

### He Is Making Up to the Present Day Boy for What He Himself Missed

Mr. William Harmon of New York City is trying to make up to the boys of this generation what the boys of his generation missed. "I was born," he writes, "in Lebanon, Ohio, in the midst of one of the best agricultural counties, an educational center, the seat of the national normal university. It was apparently the ideal city for the making of strong, clean men and women possessing all the attractions of an agricultural and college community. But there was one missing link in the way of spiritual and physical development—the direction of child life during years of play or leisure."

It was to supply this "missing link" in the lives of the children of Lebanon, that, in 1909, Mr. Harmon gave to the town an eighty-acre farm to be used as a big playground and the building known as Harmon Hall where Lebanon's young people can play basketball, billiards, and pool; bowl, hold debates, and, in fact, find something to fit every mood and every taste.

On September 30, 1921, the town of Lebanon celebrated Harmon Day to express their appreciation of what this play endowment has meant to

the life of the town and to unveil a tablet in honor of Mr. Harmon and in commemoration of his gift. In accepting this tribute Mr. Harmon expressed the hope that sometime he might see inscribed on this tablet, "On this spot, September 30, 1921, a national movement for the establishment of playgrounds in small cities and towns was launched by the donor of this park."

"Ages hence," said Mr. Harmon, "I would like to look down from the windows of Heaven and see children in a thousand playgrounds and realize that, in a measure, at least, it was made possible through the inspiration I gained from this thing which today you are raising in my honor."

It is in fulfillment of this hope that Mr. Harmon organized last November the Harmon Foundation which has as its principal aim to help the towns and small cities of America to set aside for recreation big open spaces that may never be built upon but shall remain through the years a permanent endowment for play.

As Mr. Harmon puts it—"The gift of land is the gift eternal."

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Now, the element of "play" in a world in which there is just as much work as in the business world lies in the psychological joy that everything is self-imposed: all is one's own choosing, with the instinct naturally pointing to the thing we most want to do, not to the thing that we must do, whether we like it or not. If there is a world that is like an oyster, it is this world outside of business; where one can choose the kind and size of the oyster, and open it as he wills. This is not work. Work is where one works for self; for one's own material advancement; for and from necessity. The other work is "play" in that one works for others. Someone will say: "I don't see the distinction." No one can, until it is actually felt and experienced. But the difference is there; as distinct as night from day; as marked as sunshine is from rain. A man does not feel the same when working for others as when he works for himself, and this is not empty theory or, what we choose to turn up our noses at nowadays, idealism. It is an actual physical fact.—From "Now That I Have 'Played' for Two Years" by Edward Bok.

# Music for America

Otto H. Kahn

On the Occasion of the Inaugural Recital of New York's Music Week, May 1st, 1922

NEW YORK, MAY 1ST.—*One of the chief features of New York's Music Week was the speech of Mr. Otto H. Kahn today at the opening session of the "Festival of the Organs," a series of organ recitals and concerts given by the National Association of Organists in the Wanamaker Auditorium.*

*Mr. Kahn said:*

"It is a particular pleasure to say a few words of greeting and congratulation on this auspicious occasion. Those whose vision and enthusiasm conceived the scheme of New York's Music Week and whose energy and zeal carried that conception into effect, deserve the thanks of the community. How timely was their plan and how correctly they judged public sentiment in inaugurating it, is fully proven by the wide interest, the universal approbation and the influential support with which it met from the beginning and which have followed it in ever growing measure.

"This is the third recurrence of New York's Music Week. It is being celebrated in multi-form manifestations, indicative of the keen and profound interest of the people of this city in, and responsiveness to, musical art. The success of the event is gratifying, but by no means surprising. Ours is an art-loving population and the potentialities arising from that fact are of great promise. What is needed to realize these potentialities, is what those in charge of Music Week are aiming to accomplish: Bring art to the people and you will bring the people to art.

## DEMOCRACY AIMS AT THE SPIRITUAL

"The people are hungry for nourishment for their souls. The upward struggle of democracy aims at the spiritual no less than at the material.

"The lives of the vast majority are cast upon a background of sameness and grind and routine. Necessarily so. The world's work has got to be done. But all the more should we endeavor to open up, to make readily accessible and to cultivate those pastures where beauty and inspiration may be gathered by all.

"We all are the better for psychic change from time to time, just as we are the better for physical change of air and surroundings. We need to give our souls an airing once in a while. We need to exercise the muscles of our inner selves just as we need to exercise those of our bodies. We must have outlets for our emotions. Just as the soil of agricultural land requires rotation of crops in order to produce the best results, so does the soil of our inner being require variety of treatment in order to remain elastic and fertile and to enable us to produce the best of which we are capable.

"I believe that some of the restlessness, of the turmoil, of the lawlessness, even of the crime of the day, arises in a measure from a reaction against the humdrumness and drabness and lack of inspirational opportunity of everyday existence. I believe that much can be done by art, and particularly the art of music, to give satisfaction to the natural and legitimate desire for getting away from unrelieved dullness and drudgery, and to lead the strong impulse underlying it into fruitful, instead of into harmful, or even destructive channels.

## THE PIANO VS. THE POLICEMAN

"When I uttered this sentiment a couple of weeks ago at a hearing before Mayor Hylan concerning the project of creating a Civic Art Center in New York, the Mayor interrupted to inquire whether I meant to say that art would be effective toward diminishing crime. I replied that the stimulation and wide cultivation of art, as of every other ethical element, would tend to make the soil less propitious for the growth of the weeds of crime. The Mayor continued: 'One of this morning's newspapers wants me to put a policeman into every house,' to which yielding to the temptation of alliteration, I replied jocosely: 'I would rather have a piano in every house.'

"This impromptu formed the text for much merrymaking and satire in the press. I need hardly say that I no more meant it to be taken in a literal sense than the poet when he wrote of

'teaching the young idea how to shoot' meant to be understood as referring to revolver practice. The sense of my remark was akin to that of the well-known German popular saying, which, like all popular sayings, has a great element of truth and wisdom in it:

'Where they sing, you may safely dwell.  
There is no song in the wicked.'  
('Wo man singt, da lass Dich ruhig nieder.  
Boese Menschen haben keine Lieder.')

"That does not mean that any and all members of choral societies are wholly free from evil, or that you would be safe in engaging a cashier in sole reliance on the fact that he has a well-cultivated tenor voice.

"What I meant to convey, and what I maintain, is, that the best preventive against crime is to encourage and foster in the young—and in the grown-ups, too, for that matter—interest in, and understanding for, that which is beautiful and inspiring and which will bring into their leisure hours influences and occupations tending to counteract the lure of the street and to breed aversion and contempt for that which is vulgar, cheap, brutal and degrading. Toward that end, one of the most potent instrumentalities is art. It is, or can be made, a mighty element for civic betterment. It is, or can be made, one of the strongest among those agencies which have power to form and guide the thought and the sentiments and the conduct of the people. It has a weighty purpose and a great mission.

#### ART IS RED-BLOODED AND OF THE PEOPLE

"Art is not 'high-brow' stuff. It is a red-blooded, democratic thing. General Pershing knew what he was about when, in the midst of the gravest preoccupations, he took steps to encourage singing and band-playing among the men of the American Expeditionary Force. So did the great Napoleon know what he was about when, in the field, engaged in a critical campaign, he turned his thoughts to making provision for fostering art in France. It is a significant thing that recently the labor unions of New York voted favorably upon the proposition to inaugurate a movement for the creation of a People's Theatre.

To acquire appreciation of, and understanding for, art is to acquire true enrichment. For, wealth is only in part a matter of dollars and cents. The occupant of a gallery seat, who has paid twenty-five cents for admission to a con-

cert, will be far richer that evening, if he has brought with him love and enthusiasm for art, than the man or woman in a box at the Metropolitan Opera if *blasé* and indifferent, they sit yawning or chattering. The poor man in a crowded tenement who feels moved and stirred in reading a fine book, will be far richer at the time than the man or woman sitting in dullness in a gorgeous mansion. If he goes to Central Park or Riverside Drive, with his eyes and soul open to the beauties of nature, he will be far richer than the man or woman rushing in a luxurious automobile through the glories of the Italian landscape, the man thinking of the Stock Exchange and the woman of her new dress or next party.

#### ART IN AVENUE A

I don't mean to imply that love of art is lacking among the well-to-do and is preponderantly confined to those not blessed with worldly goods. Feeling for art has nothing to do with the size of a man's pocketbook. Proportionately speaking, there is probably no very great difference, as to the number of art lovers on Fifth Avenue and on Avenue A. But the inhabitants of Fifth Avenue have a far greater and more continuous supply of diversions, artistic and otherwise, than those of Avenue A, and therefore, are naturally not as responsive and susceptible to the simpler appeal, do not bring the same freshness, zeal and enthusiasm to their enjoyments, nor carry away from them the same degree of stimulation and satisfaction. That is one of the penalties of Fifth Avenue and one of the rewards of Avenue A.

The dividends which we receive from having fitted ourselves to appreciate and enjoy art and beauty, no Bolshevik can take away from us and no income tax can diminish.

Not the most profitable business of my banking career gave me that sensation of gain which I experienced when, a boy of seventeen, I had the treasure house of "Tristan and Isolde" opened up to me. Nor did I ever come so near to having the feelings which are generally attributed to a plutocrat as on that occasion. It so happened that I was taken to that performance by one of the rich men of the town in which I then lived. He fidgeted restlessly through the first act, but during the divine duo in the second act he fell asleep and actually

(Continued on page 236)

# The Organist\*

ANGELO PATRI

Author of "A Schoolmaster in the Great City"; Principal Public School 45, The Bronx

"It's too bad, but he always does that. Sets his heart upon doing something that is impossible. A fifteen-year-old boy can't be allowed to go off on a camping trip alone. If he would only be willing to have a couple of other boys with him it wouldn't be so bad. But he made up his mind to go off to an island all by himself for the summer. Did you ever hear the like?"

"Robinson Crusoe stage, that's all," said his father.

"Robinson Crusoe? What's that got to do—my goodness, there he goes! Did anybody ever have such a child before, I wonder? Now he'll play wildly like that for an hour or so."

The tones of the organ swelled and rolled through the house, a loud wild cry, a shrill lament. The first loud outcry died away only to rise again tremblingly, pleadingly, wistfully. Silence, and then a storm of thundering tones of protest and discordant rebellion, ending in a proud march of defiant, thumping chords.

"Hear that?" said his mother, atremble with nervousness and dread. "Now he will pick out one part of all that noise and play it again and again until he is tired out. It's dreadful."

"It sounds to me like music," said his father hopefully.

"Music? There isn't any tune to it. You couldn't sing it, or even remember it. He couldn't play it again if he wanted to. He'll vary it until he is tired of it, that's all. It's unhealthy. I'm going to make him stop and go out and cut the grass. I'll have to find jobs for him all day so he'll forget this."

"Some way I wouldn't, if I were you, Mary. I'd let him play it out. Then he'll feel better. Just the way you do when you have a good cry."

"You mean that he's crying?"

"That's his way of crying, I take it. Let him alone."

Surely, let him alone! The adolescent child who asks to go off by himself indicates that he needs to steady his emotional self. His body is uneasy because it is beset by strange sensations which he can neither locate nor define. His mind is "jumpy" because his emotions are shifting and uncertain. Part child, part man, he sees through the glass but dimly.

Then be patient with his queer, quick-changing moods, his wobbly, inconsistent attitudes, his untimely tears and still more untimely laughter. Be prepared for the unusual demonstrations of his inward self. If he goes into the backyard and throws stones at the fence viciously for a full hour, turn your attention elsewhere and let him throw all the disturbance out of himself.

When he writes verses or composes on the violin or the trombone, try to remember that "this, too, shall pass away," and let him have it out with himself. If it is possible to keep him busy it is well, but there are times when you will have to permit him to comfort himself in ways that harrow your nerves. Be patient. You wore your heart on your sleeve once, for all your still outside today.

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\* Courtesy of New York Evening Post.

Mr. M. C. Potter, Superintendent of Schools of Milwaukee, in concluding his report on the work of the School Board Extension Department in charge of Milwaukee's social centers says:

"That children shall grow into a productive maturity, sure to pull their own weight, capable to lend a hand in carrying another's load is a prime desideratum. To make a living is fundamental. But to make a life it is imperative to develop wise ways in employing leisure hours. We wish all of our youth to learn to earn, as also that many of them shall earn to learn. But all the work of our hands returns to dust. Continuous power of recreation either of wealth or of beauty must depend for permanence upon constant recreation. This last consideration is most dominant in the Extension Department, but it gives validity and fidelity to practical working activities in all the departments of school life."

## Leisure Time for Civic Information

*"We can hope for an informed and intelligent citizenry only to the degree in which we are able to lead it to the employment of leisure time in gaining civic information."*

In speaking of the importance of an appreciation on the part of the schools of the value of training for the right use of leisure, Mr. W. D. Ross of the Kansas State Normal School has said:

"Reading must be taught not merely that the child may as a man be able to read a market report or interpret a set of directions; but that he may want to employ some of his leisure time in adding to his intelligence and increasing his enjoyment by resource to the riches of literature. And unless our schools in their teaching of reading accomplish this result in an ever increasing degree, they will be constantly failing in a correspondingly greater degree; for in the first place the taste for reading offers the most pleasurable and profitable of all the means for the employment of leisure, and in the second place, since in four years it is out of the question adequately to prepare youth for the duties of citizenship, and since the problems of government in our democracy must ever become more complicated and complex with increasing population, we can hope for an informed and intelligent citizenry only to the degree in which we are able to lead it to the employment of its leisure time in gaining civic information.

"And this leads me to the observation that through story, biography, and vital contact the social sciences must first unconsciously and informally and later consciously and formally form a part of the school work of every grade. Only as they are impressed upon them in the formative period of childhood and youth will their social responsibilities become the leisure time consideration of adults.

"But reading and interest in the social sciences alone will not insure the continued success of our democracy. There must be consideration and judgment, also exercised, as a part of the proper use of leisure. So must our schools increasingly encourage and stimulate original expression and constructive thinking, if need be at the expense of drill and even of some facts. Organized plays and games—athletics for all, must be provided.

Some one has said the two right uses of leisure are to get health and keep it; to get a mind and use it; but plays and physical exercises should be provided not merely to promote health but to teach team work and furnish inspiration and means for the right use of leisure.

"Music and art should have unquestioned place, not primarily as accomplishments; but as a means and training for their enjoyment, in the leisure hours of later life.

"Finally in my opinion as more and more our schools come to realize the importance of their task of training for leisure, they will become centers of amusement and of social activities where wholesome selected entertainments and supervised social functions will at once eliminate the dangers of the other sort; cultivate the right kind of present tastes and furnish the basis for the suitable employment and real enjoyment of future leisure."

## Recreation\*

Realizing just how barren of all recreational possibilities are the homes of the poor families among the charges of the Welfare Office, for the past year we have arranged weekly "parties" for both mothers and children. Sometimes it is a car ride in a brightly illuminated car furnished by the Street Car Company, or an auto ride in cars driven by the members of the Rotary Club. But most often we just meet—lately at the courthouse, and play all the noisy, old-fashioned games and have "hot dawgs" or cocoa and when it gets really hot ice cream or lemonade. It would be entirely beyond words to tell what good times we have had and how the families look forward to Monday nights. Somebody is always glad to furnish the refreshments as long as we can furnish the boys and girls to enjoy them.

Play they must. What does the average little shaver care, given all the fun and frolic he wants, that the fare on the family table is poor and scant or that his wardrobe consists of a patched or ragged pair of overalls. He just wants to play. If he can get it in the right way all is well and good, if not, the street corner and crap game will get him. Too much cannot be done in providing for the "good time" that every boy and girl craves.

\*From The May Round Table, issued monthly by the Arkansas Commission of Charities and Correction

## Music for Citizenship

WILLIAM C. BRADFORD

That man cannot live by bread alone is an axiom of the ages. Under the divine inspiration of what he might be and what his inner soul dictated he should try to be, man has threaded his way upward across the centuries. In the midst of life's struggles and through them all he has realized that food, shelter, and clothing do not make up the sum total of the thing called life. In the sweat of his brow, man has found the way and the means of physical development. In the reaction and of the reaction of his physical environment he gave rise to his physical development. In the contemplation of an ideal life and ideal relations and an ultimate destiny, he provided for, gave expression to spiritual growth, and spiritual development.

The physical expressions of man's growth and development through the ages have always been perishable. Governments have been organized which seemed as enduring as the ages; yet these governments live only in story. Ceaseless changes have wrought havoc with practically all the physical creations of man. It is only in the world of his spiritual expression—literature and music that we find permanency.

The great spiritual expressions embodied in music still live with all their original significance. It flows into the present from the past, points into the future and embodies the mortal life essence of the spiritual in man. Music that has been expressed by man in the moments of his greatest exultation can never die.

It came out of the same emotions, feelings, sentiments whether written in the fifth century, the fifteenth century or the twentieth century, which are contained in the physical, mental and spiritual embodiment of man today. This is true whether the songs were originally sung amid the solitudes of the mountains, in fertile valleys, or amid the pomp of royal courts or the splendor of ancient cities. These musical masterpieces will stir the same sentiments, emotions, feelings, will bring about the same spiritual exultation that they did in the day of their conception.

Music, whether opera, oratorio or symphony, selects incidents and scenes in nature and human life and expresses them through the emotions of the composers to the emotions of the listener or the reproducer. It lifts people out of the walls

and limitations of particular time and particular place and makes them harmonize with and possess all time and all place. The courage, the heroism, the devotion, the ideals, the struggles, the triumphs, the defeats, the symphonies and the tragedies of human life record the life's spiritual, typify individual experiences, tendencies, hopes and aspirations.

Music is an interpretation, by the masters, of life. Through it runs the inspiration and the justification of moral clash and struggle and in the ultimate triumph of the ideal is recorded the distinction between the transitory and the eternal. Music is a guide and inspiration in times of stress and strain, a comforter in affliction, a balancing power in times of triumph and victory.

The songs of the Aryan mothers still soothe to slumber; the folk songs and the dance symphonies of the Hungarian street Arabs arouse feelings of happiness and contentment. The weird fantasies of the chilling minor strains of the Russian schools make us listen to the voice of the down-trodden; they almost bring to our ears the cries of the oppressed peasants or the despairing death struggles of the Siberian exiles. The operatic airs of the Italian masters make us think of the every day commonplace struggles in life. These musical expressions of whatever land or clime or people show the attempts of the soul of man to classify the things pertaining to its environment.

So the awakening of a new spirit in our own communities is finding expression through community music. Through it we are building on the best contributions of all ages and all races and so building toward a higher type of citizenship. We are opening up new channels to a richer cultural life, and a finer appreciation of the best, not only in music but in all forms of art.

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Athletic activity is the best substitute for war, and every virile nation must have one or the other.

Every great art interprets its own time in terms of that time, and no art can depict our time without giving a large place to its athletics.

R. TAIT MCKENZIE,  
Professor of Sculpture and Physical Director,  
University of Pennsylvania

## Pennsylvania Music Week as Educational Propaganda

A remarkably successful use of community music as propaganda for education is seen in the recent state-wide music week in Pennsylvania. The event was fostered by the Department of Public Instruction as a part of the general music plan of this department which is known as the "Pennsylvania plan." The purpose of the music week was to demonstrate the educational and social value of music; not only in the schools, but to show its vital relation to home, church, industrial and civic life.

In order to stimulate public interest in the music week, the Department of Public Instruction sent out for publication an exhaustive article on Pennsylvania's musical history. It also sent out a set of suggestions for the event, covering school competitions, music memory contests. The response was gratifying, not only in the large cities, but in the towns. A feature of the occasion consisted of programs in honor of Pennsylvania's composers such as Stephen C. Foster, Ethelbert Nevin and Charles Wakefield Cadman.

As pointed out by C. F. Hoban in his report on the music week to Dr. Thomas E. Finegan, Superintendent of Education, "Pennsylvania for the first time feels its musical power. Every citizen in our Commonwealth feels that ours has been the greatest Music Week movement our country has had. Belief in ourselves will make a great Pennsylvania, musically, educationally, spiritually."

In addition to creating this wholesome morale among the citizens, the music week realized another purpose for which it was organized. That purpose was the demonstrating to the people of the educational value of music so that they would in turn give loyal support to the advanced step that Pennsylvania has taken in musical education. That step is the "Pennsylvania plan," which owes its inauguration to Dr. Finegan.

### THE PENNSYLVANIA PLAN IN MUSIC

With the cooperation of the Governor and the Legislature, the school law was amended making the teaching of music compulsory in every elementary school of the state, both public and private. Dr. Finegan created a state director of music and selected for the position Dr. Hollis

Dann, head of the Department of Music of Cornell University.

The directors of all subjects in the Department of Public Instruction were unanimously agreed that the time allotment for music should be twenty minutes daily in the first six grades and the equivalent of twenty-five minutes daily in the upper (junior high school) grades.

In order that the law might not become a dead letter through the lack of trained teachers, a three year course for music supervisors was installed at three state normal schools, Indiana, Mansfield, and West Chester. These all-the-year-round school for supervisors are open to teachers from other states as well. In addition, Dr. Dann is conducting this summer a session for supervisors similar to the course formerly offered under him at Cornell. This course which is given at the West Chester Normal is available not only to the 500 Pennsylvania supervisors, but to those from other states.

The state requires every teacher in the elementary schools to qualify in music. To help the teachers meet this requirement, a state-wide plan for the musical training of grade teachers has been adopted. Every student in the thirteen normal school's is taking a practical course in music, including the singing of rote songs, sight singing, musical dictation and skill in teaching. The 46,000 teachers now in service are reached through the music courses in the nine weeks' summer session held in the thirteen normal schools. Extension courses are given wherever a class of twenty teachers signifies a desire for such instruction. Constructive work in music is being included in the county and city institute programs.

That the especially talented students may not be neglected, a vocational course in music will be offered wherever the local high school is adequately equipped to give it.

The problem of credits for outside study of music is being solved by a comprehensive plan to be offered in the high school music syllabus now in preparation.

## RECREATION CONGRESS

Atlantic City

O C T O B E R 9 - 12

## For a National Bureau of Recreation

James J. Davis, Secretary of Labor, recently told the National Association of Music Merchants that he favored the proposed Bureau of Recreation to further the development of music, drama, and athletics in cooperation with individual communities. Especially did he urge the place of music.

"You know that in Wales each year every community has its Eisteddfod, or song festival, where every man and woman, whether poet, artist, musician or mechanic, competes. There is competition among artists in every line and those who carry off the honors in the local festival enter the national Eisteddfod for competition with the winners from all over the country.

"Introducing this in the United States would mean the organization nationally of instrumental and vocal music, the theatre and all other recreations. And this national organization must begin in the individual community. I believe that all municipalities should have recreational leaders. In the smaller communities especially we must encourage the drama, which of recent years has shown a tendency to become a lost art in the little town. The drama is linked with music, for no play is worth while on the stage unless it is accompanied by music in one form or another. I would have every form of recreation so that the humblest citizen could really take part and enjoy it, and I would have every town organized to give expression to its people. I would have community competitions, from which the winners would go to county and state competitions, and finally to a great national gathering. I would have musical festivals in town, city, county and state every year.

"I would so develop music in the community that I would have a musical instrument of some kind in every home, and I would have every child taught to play, sing and know music."

In the same address Secretary Davis pointed out the relation between music, especially the music industries, and wages. "There are 40,000,000 gainfully employed in the United States, and those among that number who receive a saving wage are all prospective customers for you music merchants," he said. "You ought to be strong for the maintenance of the saving wage. To reduce the wages of the American workman

half a dollar a day means a wage loss of 7,300,000,000 a year. That loss falls first on recreational industry, for it is in recreation that the workman and his family first undertake to curtail their expenditures.

"You gentlemen and every employer of labor whose market ultimately depends upon the wages the workingman of America earns would do well to bear these things in mind."

## Future Criminals\*

Crime is an individual disease in part, springing from social causes, and not merely a tough problem in legal administration, and Justice Cropsey's recent reminder of this fact is a useful one at the present time, when most of the activity against crime is, not unnaturally, concerned with the machinery of criminal procedure.

The justice pointed out that the bulk of the crimes of violence in this city are committed by men under twenty-five, one-third of them being boys under twenty-one. The majority of these young criminals, moreover, are native born, so that it becomes logical to regard the boys of the city, between twelve and eighteen, as the proper material with which to work in stopping not only the present crime wave, but, what is equally important, future outbursts of criminality.

This is not a new discovery, but it is worthy of reemphasizing as a field for crime prevention efforts that should be worked collaterally with efforts to increase the efficiency of the Police Department and to expedite the processes of the District Attorney's office. It has become too much the habit perhaps to regard the Boy Scouts and kindred organizations as solely war activities. They were created as good citizenship breeders in the first place, and their war functions were secondary. Intensification of their work now would be a wise and timely step for the future; it would not only help meet present conditions as regards crime, but it would also pay large dividends ten years from now. We greatly need more playgrounds, more opportunity to participate in manly sports and many other things to help bridge over the critical period incident to the breakdown of the system of parental authority brought from Europe and real assimilation to the spirit of restraintless American freedom.

\* From *New York Tribune*, May 17, 1922

# A Stephen C. Foster Program

KENNETH CLARK

A recent operetta based upon the life of Franz Schubert gives timeliness to the performance of a program in honor of America's beloved folk-song composer, the late Stephen C. Foster. It is fitting that those engaged in community music should pause to pay such a tribute to Foster's memory since his famous songs *Old Folks at Home*, *Old Black Joe* and *My Old Kentucky Home* form the backbone of the community singing repertoire in our country. Indeed, the "Old Folks at Home" is declared by Foster's recent biographer, Harold Vincent Milligan, to be probably the most widely-known and beloved song ever written, aside from one or two national airs born of great historical crises. The performance, therefore, by groups all over the country of the Foster program outlined below may become both an inspiration to the performers and a musical monument to America's great melodist.

The outline presented below gives the *maximum possibilities* for a Foster program. Even though the individual group may select only those parts of it that are suited to its own desires and resources, still the resultant performance should be one that will give pleasure. The plan in general calls for the following: The narrating by a speaker of interesting and generally unknown facts in Foster's life; the singing of some of his familiar and unfamiliar songs by the audience, soloists, quartets, and choral groups; the illustrating of certain of the songs through pantomime and tableaux. In the following pages are presented, first, the program as a whole and then the details for developing each number in all its phases. The plan offers a joint objective for musical and dramatic groups.

## A STEPHEN C. FOSTER PROGRAM

1. Overture—*Medley of Foster Songs*  
Band or Orchestra Selection or Phonograph Record
2. *Gwine to Run All Night* (De Camptown Races)  
Solo with Choral Group or Quartet
3. Talk on Foster's Life.
4. *My Old Kentucky Home*  
Solo; illustrated by tableau
5. (a) *Come Where My Love Lies Dreaming*  
Sung by Quartet or Chorus, or Phonograph Record

- (b) *Oh, Susanna*  
Solo with Quartet or Chorus, or Phonograph Record
6. *Massa's in de Cold, Cold Ground*  
Solo and Audience; illustrated by tableau
7. (a) *Oh, Boys, Carry Me 'Long*  
Baritone Solo with Quartet or Chorus, or Phonograph Record
- (b) *Uncle Ned*  
Baritone Solo with Quartet or Chorus
8. *Old Black Joe*  
Solo and Audience, with tableau
9. *Hard Times Come Again No More*  
Duet with Quartet or Chorus, or Record
10. *Nelly Bly*  
Solo with Quartet or Chorus, and Tableau
11. *Nellie Was a Lady*  
Male Quartet with Solo
12. *Old Folks at Home*  
Sung by Audience, with Tableau

An interesting commentary upon the song *Gwine to Run All Night* (De Camptown Races) may be introduced following this number if a gifted pianist can be secured to play the *Lullaby* from "Tribute to Foster" by Percy Grainger. It is a study in "musical glasses" effect and is based on the above-mentioned song. The Australian composer relates that one of his earliest recollections was that of his mother singing him to sleep with *Camptown Races*. This piano piece, which is difficult, has been recorded by Mr. Grainger for the Duo-Art. This roll, which can be played only on the Duo-Art, is No. 5821 and is sold at \$3.00.

## MATERIAL REQUIRED

The first essential for presenting the above program is that the group shall possess a copy of a book containing the Foster songs listed therein. Available collections are the following:

Twenty Songs by Stephen C. Foster. Edited by N. Clifford Page. Price \$1.00 less 10%. Published by Charles H. Ditson and Company, 8 East 34th Street, New York City

Album of Songs by Stephen C. Foster. Edited by Harold Vincent Milligan. Price \$1.50 less 20%. Published by G. Schirmer, Inc., 3 East 43rd Street, New York City

The Ditson book contains the entire 12 songs listed above and the Schirmer book contains all except *O Susanna* and *O Boys Carry Me Long*. For the preparation of songs in which the audience takes part the Community Service song leaflet may be utilized. These are to be had at cost from the headquarters of Community Service. If it is desired to use more than one verse of these songs, however, the following books may be used.

Twice Fifty-Five Community Songs published by C. C. Birchard and Company, 221 Columbus Ave., Boston, Mass. Price \$.15 each, \$13.50 per 100

101 Best Songs published by the Cable Piano Company, Chicago, Illinois. Price \$.10 each, \$7.00 per 100

For the interpretation of *Old Folks at Home* and *Old Black Joe* special analyses have been made for Community Service by Nelson Illingworth, the Australian baritone. These are to be had without charge upon request to the Bureau of Community Music, Community Service.

#### BIOGRAPHICAL DATA

For the compilation of the talk on Foster's life the most valuable data is found in the following book:

Stephen Collins Foster, A Biography, by Harold Vincent Milligan. Published by G. Schirmer, Inc., 3 East 43rd St., New York City, Price \$2.50

The Ditson book of songs listed above also includes a one-page biography of Foster.

Certain brief material on Foster's life and writings is found on pages 93 and 94 of a Handbook on Community Music, issued by Community Service, price \$.50. Further information on the subject is found in musical encyclopedias.

A page of biographical notes concerning Foster has been prepared by the Bureau of Community Music, Community Service, and is to be had upon request.

Upon the unveiling of a marble bust of Foster at the Kentucky State Capitol an address on "Stephen C. Foster and American Songs" was delivered to the Kentucky Historical Society by Young E. Allison. A brochure containing a reprint of this address has been issued by the Insur-

\* The talk on Foster's life should be prepared and delivered in a sympathetic, intimate style, with, if possible, touches of humor to brighten the narration of a career which had its tragic aspects.

ance Field, a publication located at 95 William Street, New York City.

#### BAND AND ORCHESTRA MUSIC

For the opening medley as played by band or orchestra the following music is available.

"Gems of Stephen C. Foster," published by Carl Fischer, Cooper Square, New York City, Price for small orchestra \$1.22; Price for band \$1.80.

"Sunny South," an overture containing four Foster songs, arranged by J. Lampe and published by Jerome H. Remick & Co., 219 W. 46th St., New York City. Price for small orchestra \$.75. Price for band \$1.00.

If it is desired to have an orchestral accompaniment for the "audience" songs, orchestral parts for these may be found in the orchestrations of "Fifty-Five Community Songs" issued by C. C. Birchard and Company, 221 Columbus Ave., Boston, Mass.

#### THE NARRATOR

In order to knit the program closely together it is well to have it presided over by a Narrator. He should be a person of good diction and of dramatic ability. Above all, he should have magnetism and a sense of humor. He may make brief remarks in the form of a Prologue explaining the purpose of the program. It would be wise to have him deliver the talk on Foster's life. He may preface the singing of certain of the songs by telling the history of their composition. He should be able to fill in any waits in the program with announcements or other appropriate remarks. His costume should be that of a gentleman of the Civil War period.

#### THE TABLEAUX

Since the stage lights will be dimmed during most of the tableaux, it will be necessary to have the house lights down. Therefore, it is wise to have the audience learn the words of the songs beforehand, since they will have to sing from memory. Such a difficulty may be obviated by having a soloist or choral group sing from memory the verse, after which the entire audience sings the refrain, which should be familiar to all. The choral group might sit in the front of the auditorium and lead the audience in the singing of these songs.

# Song Scenes from Stephen C. Foster

Arranged by Mrs. Elizabeth H. Hanley of Community Service

## SETTING

Stage to suggest a Southern scene out of doors. Forest green curtains hung at back and sides, or screens of the same shade, will make a good background. This curtain should have its back length hung through the center of the stage, giving the shallow depth necessary for the tableaux and pantomimes. A few trees and pendant vines here and there will add to the effect. Festoons of Spanish moss will enhance the tropical illusion and carry the wistful atmosphere characteristic of most of Foster's songs. The moss can be simulated with paper stripings sold by the Dennison Manufacturing Company, New York City, and known as crepe moss.

In the centre, back of the arras or screen setting, a platform two feet high, five feet long and four feet deep, enclosed back and sides by curtains or screens of forest green, black or other dark color, lighted from above and sides, or flooded from front of stage so as to concentrate the high light on the tableaux in the frame. The front of this inner stage, or frame, is flush with the back arras curtain or screens making the set, and this curtain is drawn from before the frame when the picture is to be shown.

The forestage is dimly lighted throughout. The lighting on the tableaux is regulated according to the mood of the song depicted, as amber for those of brighter nature, and blue for those of more serious type.

Pantomime will be more effective and easier to "get over" than straight tableaux, but the latter requires less rehearsal and time for preparation. The costumes are all of the "cornfield style"—that is, plain homespun dresses in browns, blues and blacks for the women, with large gingham aprons, bandanna headpieces or sunbonnets; overalls or homespun trousers, dark shirts and old straw hats for the men; children, the same styles, but in keeping with their ages. All shoes worn and run-down, with white hose predominating.

## FIRST TABLEAU:—MY OLD KENTUCKY HOME

Curtain rises on rather young negro man and woman seated down right on the forestage. His arm is around her shoulders, her head drooping forward, with hands to her face as if weeping. Opening bars of song sound softly, and he gently

takes her hands from her face and turns her head toward the centre back where the platform is concealed.

The audience begins singing first stanza of song, and curtains part, revealing a sunny, flower-decked setting, with a group of young negro men and girls singing and dancing to the music of the banjo. This may be pantomimed or given as a set tableaux, as desired. On the line, "By'n by hard times come a-knockin' at de door," the lights on the frame dim, and the young people change their manner and the tempo of the music to an effect of wistfulness and sorrow, but with the note of happy memories to sustain them. On the last chorus, the young woman down right looks up at the man, and joins him in singing, with a brave smile shining through her tears. Curtain at back slowly closes at the beginning of the last chorus, that at front, on the last line, showing the couple looking yearningly but happily toward the spot where in memory they could still see their "old Kentucky home."

## SECOND TABLEAU:—MASSA'S IN DE COLD, COLD GROUND

Front curtain rises on dim stage with a circle of negroes, men, women, and children, gathered about an older man down left, on the edge of a field, or in the front yard of a cabin, if this can be easily done. The group looks at him inquiringly, and he gazes up and out front, as if seeing a vision of something he is about to tell them.

The audience begins to sing the first stanza. The old man looks at the group about him, and pantomimes the words, all drooping with him at the reference to their master's death. On the chorus, the curtain back slowly parts, showing a group of negroes in a cornfield, leaning sadly on their hoes, and with heads bowed in mourning and grief. On the last stanzas, stressing the goodness of the master to them all, the group down front respond with loving reminiscent smiles, but those at back hold their sorrowing attitude throughout. The back curtain closes slowly at the beginning of the last stanza, the front curtain closes just as it ends, the group on forestage, following the lead of the old man, baring their heads and looking up as if saluting the beloved presence of the master in the skies.

## THIRD TABLEAU:—OLD BLACK JOE

Scene still dim on forestage. Front curtain rises on very old negro man standing in center of stage, looking up front, as if visioning and hearing something pleasing from afar off.

Audience begins singing first stanza. He pantomimes the sentiments as expressed by the words of each stanza, with the peering, listening attitude accentuated at the chorus. Pantomime for this scene will be less monotonous than a tableau. On the last chorus, the old man starts slowly down stage his eyes peering upward as if to pierce the heavens, and his hands yearningly reaching out to the desired companions there. The curtain closes slowly as he is almost on the edge of the stage down centre right. There is nothing shown on the platform back.

## FOURTH TABLEAU:—NELLY BLY

Front curtain rises on empty forestage, introduction of song played briskly. Group begins to sing first stanza of song. Curtains at back part, showing the interior of a cabin, with an open fireplace at center back, a large iron pot hanging on a crane, or set on a pile of bricks built up in a square, an imitation fire blazing under it. Material for a paper fireplace may be had from the Dennison Manufacturing Company. A young negro man stands down right, smiling broadly and strumming on a banjo. A young woman stands left of fireplace, holding a broom in one hand and stirring the pot with a long spoon in the other. With the spoon she keeps up a sort of time—beating to the music, and in the chorus takes a dancing step toward the man. On the last chorus, he dances with her, and the curtain front slowly closes on the two of them uniting in a dance of irrepressible happiness and joy.

## FIFTH TABLEAU:—OLD FOLKS AT HOME

Front curtain rises on empty stage, dimly lighted. Introduction of song softly played. From right enter a young negro man, but bent and unkempt, a lonely, forlorn figure. Two or three other negroes, more prosperous looking, follow him and look at him questioningly. He stands right centre in a most dejected attitude for an instant. He looks at the others a second, then turns and gestures toward the centre back, where the platform is concealed. Singers begin to sing first stanza, and curtains at back slowly part and reveal a tableau of an old negro man and woman seated in the centre of the frame, looking off long-

ingly into the distance. A young negro man sits at their feet, slightly left, pantomiming or actually playing on a banjo.

If practicable, the front of a cabin may be shown in the tableau behind the figures—a door and flat wall with vines growing about it. The light on the picture is amber, suggesting a sunny clime. The group on the forestage down right watch the tableau to the end of the chorus, with the forlorn negro right center holding out his hands longingly toward the scene at the back, a tender, reminiscent smile upon his face. There is a sort of pride, too, in his manner, that he has a home like that to tell the others about. They smile in sympathy and understanding, and the front curtains close slowly on the vision still shining sunnily across the dim distance to the prodigal son in the shadow.

## A SPECIAL FINALE

A special finale may be added after the final tableau provided that there is someone in the community who can be made up to resemble Stephen C. Foster as shown by the two portraits in the Milligan biography. The finale would go as follows: After the curtain descends upon the fifth tableau, *Old Folks at Home* is played or sung long enough for the participants in the various tableaux to be grouped upon the stage at either side of the tableau frame. The curtain is then raised. While the refrain is sung by the audience and those on the stage, the frame curtains part revealing the figure of Foster seated. Kneeling at his side is a little negro child looking up into his face with gratitude while the composer's hand rests benevolently on the child's shoulder. The figures on the forestage sink to their knees and extend a hand toward the tableau as the curtain falls.

“Education is the transmission of a moral and intellectual tradition, with its religion, manners, sentiments and loyalty. It is not the instruction given in American schools and colleges that matters much or that constitutes an American education; what matters is the tradition of alacrity, inquisitiveness, self-trust, spontaneous cooperation and club spirit; all of which can ripen, in the better minds, into openness to light and fidelity to duty. The test of American education is not whether it produces enlightenment, but whether it produces competence and public well-being.”

GEORGE SANTAYANA

# A Home Talent Water Carnival\*

GENEVIEVE FOX

It's all very well to sit and watch a few expert human fishes do stunts in the water, but if you want some real fun, put on a home talent water carnival and give everyone a chance to compete. Madam Lolita, world famous diver and long distance swimmer, may be a marvel, but who would prefer watching her to seeing a girls' amateur rowing race or a lively game of canoe tag or a bunch of ten-year-old swimmers in a twenty yard dash.

Time was when young people were widely discouraged from having anything to do with the water. Then, the only portion of the population who enjoyed the delights of swimming and paddling around in a boat were the boys, and they often had to be very surreptitious about it. But now that boys and girls are encouraged to swim and even sometimes required to learn to swim as part of their education and now that the fathers and mothers are feeling rather ashamed if they can't swim—why naturally there's much interest in water sports. That is why water carnivals are coming to be annual events in many towns and cities.

## A WADING POOL CARNIVAL

No longer is there any difficulty about finding plenty of talent for a water carnival in any town. Finding the water is sometimes more difficult. Still, nearly every town has enough water for at least a wading pool carnival like the one a playground instructor of Philadelphia instituted a few years ago. First of all, she made attractive posters and stuck them up about the playground announcing the event and inviting all children who wished to compete to register at once. Nearly 100 entered their names and proceeded to go to work making boats. During the following days, shipbuilding became the main occupation of the playground. Some were made from cigar boxes, some from stray pieces of wood picked up on some lot and others from material bought especially for the purpose.

\* Used by special arrangement with *The Designer* for which this article was written

However, it was not necessary to be a boat builder to take part in the carnival. There were races for those more skilled in navigation than in building and a sand modelling contest for those who were neither builders nor mariners.

The sand modelling contest was the first event on the program. It took place in the wading pool before the water was turned on for the races. Each child taking part was allotted a certain portion of the "beach" and asked to model the object he had practiced making on the playground. At the end of a given time, the judges awarded prizes for the three best specimens and it took a good deal of puzzling on their part to choose among the houses and churches and forts and battleships and animals that resulted.

After the sand building, the wading pool was filled to the brim and the races were on. Four classes of boats were entered:

1. Plain wooden boats
2. Sailing boats
3. Power boats (boats that wind up)
4. Boats built by the children at home or on the playground

As there were many entrants, the races were run in heats according to weight, size and style of boat. The enthusiasm of the spectators reached a high pitch when the winners of each heat lined up for finals; and the cheering was like unto that accorded a baseball hero, when a little five-year-old boy came in ahead of everyone else, dragging his sail boat behind him, totally unconscious of his victory—so intent was he on keeping his boat headed in the right direction and right side up. The final event was a parade of the home-made boats all around the pool.

## TOY BOATS IN A CARNIVAL

The making and sailing of toy boats which has always fascinated children has become a recognized summer event in parks and playgrounds. Just as many a father wouldn't get a chance to go to the circus if Johnny didn't insist on being taken, so many a father would

have to relinquish the pleasure of whittling out trim little boats and rigging them if he didn't have the excuse of "helping the kid." The Superintendent of Recreation in Detroit, realizing the perennial youthfulness of men, has organized an Adult Model Boat Club whose members give instructions to children in making model yachts and sailing boats. In addition to races on the playgrounds last year, Detroit held an exhibit in the Central Public Library of nearly every kind of boat you might mention in miniature.

In conducting toy boat contests, contestants for prizes should be classified into different groups according to whether the boats are built by the children or built with father, uncle or grandpa taking a hand.

#### THE HARRISBURG "KIPONA"

If your city has the right kind of water front and the kind of civic spirit Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, has you can have a gorgeous city-wide carnival that will make you famous. For the last three years, the people of that city have celebrated the night of Labor Day with a festival which they call a "kipona," the Indian word meaning "sparkling water." This event has become so well-known that people come from all over the state to witness it. Last year a fifteen-hundred-foot stage was built on coal barges and anchored in the river. On this a program of pageant and singing and dancing was given to the delight of the crowd of one hundred thousand people who lined the river bank. A boat parade in which five hundred gaily decorated canoes took part and fireworks were other features of the evening.

Between a miniature carnival on a children's playground and a big water spectacle like the Harrisburg "kipona" there are many varieties of carnivals. Given a body of water, large or small—a lake or a stream or an ocean—and given a few people who will organize the events and there is no reason why your water carnival shouldn't be a success. There are so many things to do in and on the water that just about everyone can enter some one of the events if you make them varied.

A good start in making preparations is to ask everyone who has a boat—whether it be a tub or a row boat or perchance a steam yacht—to decorate for the occasion and enter one of the prize contests. A parade of deco-

rated boats makes a vari-colored pageant and gives an atmosphere of gaiety to the whole program. This part of the carnival is, of course, particularly lovely at night. Prizes help to stimulate artistic and original efforts. At the carnival last year in Detroit, conducted by the city Department of Recreation, the prize for the best decorated boat was carried off by a canoe that had been turned into a great white swan with a doll for a passenger. This part of the program may be made more elaborate by inviting the different clubs and organizations of the city to prepare water floats. Sometimes tableaux are enacted in the larger motor boats using an electric flash light for a spot light. However, the beauty of the occasion depends to a large extent on having a large number of decorated boats. The ugliest old tug looks pretty when it sports some gay streamers and bright lights.

#### A WIDE CHOICE IN EVENTS

Floats and decorated boats, however lovely, are of course something of an extra to the reddest-blooded sports. What they want are the races. Most of us are familiar with the many varieties of races and stunts that make a land meet entertaining, but the number of things people have discovered they can do in and on the water is not a matter of such common knowledge. If a potato race is exciting on land, it is much more so in the water, played, of course, with wooden potatoes that float. Three-legged races, tandem races, egg blowing contests, tugs of war, egg and spoon races, basket ball, tag and any number of other stunts and games have been adapted as water sports. In the egg and spoon race, the swimmer holds the spoon in his mouth with the egg balanced upon it. If the egg drops, the swimmer must replace it before going on in the race. Other water races which always prove popular are an obstacle race (with hoops, barrels, scows, poles and so forth for obstacles), a tub race (the contestants sitting or kneeling in tubs and paddling with their hands), and an alligator race. In the alligator race, two teams line up on their backs, each swimmer grasping with his feet the man behind him around the head or neck. All swim with hands only, except the last man. An old clothes race in the water is a good contest for experienced swimmers. The game is to swim out to a raft

fifty yards from the shore, don a full costume of old clothes including hat and shoes, swim to shore and then swim back to the float and take them off again. A form of water wrestling which people always enjoy watching is pick-a-back wrestling. Two men stand in water about up to their arm pits. Each has a man astride his neck. The contest consists of each rider endeavoring to unhorse the other. A game of water polo played between two crack teams is always fun to watch, but it is no game for amateurs.

Diving from different heights is a popular feature of every water carnival. Care should be taken not to allow too high diving and emphasis should be placed on diving for form rather than doing daring stunts.

The following program shows how varied the events of a water carnival may be. It was given last September by one of the neighborhood centers of Brockton, Massachusetts, under the direction of the Community Service committee.

Concert by Maitland's Band, 10 Pieces, 3 to 6 p. m.

1:00-2:00 p. m. INTERSCHOOL CONTEST. Open to three boys and three girls from each school in Brockton. One representative from each school in each event. Prize given by Ellis Brett Neighborhood Center to school winning most points. Events: 1. Long distance swim. 2. Diving (front standing). 3. Diving (swan). 4. Diving (Jack-knife). 5. Swim under water. 6. Short swim.

2:00-2:30 p. m. STUNTS AND RACES by International Institute.

2:30-2:40 p. m. SCRAMBLE FOR BLOCKS. Open to all boys under 20.

SCRAMBLE FOR BLOCKS. Open to all girls under 20.

2:40-2:50 p. m. CENTIPEDE RACE. Open to all—boys, girls, men and women.

2:50-3:00 p. m. TWENTY YARD DASH. Open to all girls under 10.

3:00 p. m. RECEPTION TO CITY OFFICIALS. John P. Meade, Chairman.

3:00-3:30 p. m. LIFE SAVING EXHIBITION. Life Saving Corps of Young Men's Christian Association.

3:30-3:40 p. m. STYLE SHOW. A—Best Bathing Suit. Open to all women bathers. B—Most Unique Bathing Suit. Open to all bathers.

3:40-3:50 p. m. MINIATURE BOAT RACE. Open to all boys and girls.

3:50-4:00 p. m. WATER TUG-OF-WAR. Open to all.

4:00-4:30 p. m. V. & F. W. FILOON CO. PROGRAM. (a) Float, Noah's Ark. (b) Inter-departmental competitions. (c) Balloon Race. Open to all boys under 20. (d) Swim to Ark and Return. Open to all girls under 20.

4:30-5:00 p. m. WATER BASEBALL. City Fire Department vs. City Officials.

5:00-5:30 p. m. WATER VOLLEY BALL. Brockton Young Women's Christian Association vs. Young Men's Christian Association.

5:30-5:45 p. m. FANCY DIVING. Open to all girls and women.

5:45-6:00 p. m. FANCY DIVING. Open to all boys and men.

### Special Prizes

For smallest girl in races. For girl winning highest number of points in contest. For boy winning highest number of points in contests.

Two interesting things about this program are that it gives a chance for contestants of different ages and many different talents and it brings together different community groups—the city fire department, city officials, the Young Men's Christian Association, the Young Women's Christian Association, the International Institute.

The centipede race was improvised for the occasion by the Community Service secretary. A group of boys and girls holding on by one hand to a wooden stringer 2 feet x 2 feet and swimming with two feet and one hand each, raced with other many-legged groups to see which should make the goal first.

Water baseball is played like indoor baseball, except for a few complications. The batter, catcher and backstops are stationed on a large low float while all the other players are on rafts 8 feet square anchored from the middle so as to allow free tilting. Bases are placed about 30 feet apart and the pitcher's float is in the middle of the diamond. A regular indoor bat is used and the ball should be a regular indoor baseball covered with rubber to keep it from water soaking and then with canvas to keep it from becoming slippery. The regular rules for indoor baseball are followed with a few exceptions.

A water tug of war may be participated in by two or more swimmers. The men on one side try to pull their opponents across a given line in the water.

(Continued on page 240)

## A Small Town Gymnasium and Swimming Pool

JULIUS KUHNERT

Director Department of Health Education, Raton  
Public Schools, Raton, New Mexico

Can a small town have a municipal and school gymnasium and swimming pool? The answer to such a question is emphatically in the affirmative. It has been done in Raton, New Mexico, a town of about 7,000 people; it can be done elsewhere. Raton, in itself, is no different than other cities of the same class and size. The chief industry in the city is railroads, and it is a coal mining center, there being about ten mines within a radius of thirty-five miles. It is also the center of a great agricultural and cattle raising district, embracing an area about equal to the size of the State of Delaware. Raton is the county seat of Colfax County, one of the largest counties in New Mexico, having an area of 3,960 square miles, a county which is more than three times the size of Rhode Island. The assessed valuation of the entire county is \$30,000,000.

Naturally such a large county, in practically a new state, means a comparatively small population, the population of the entire county being about 25,000. In such a large district school boards cannot afford to erect many high school buildings, and so excellent county high schools are built in the county seats, to which all boys and girls in the county are welcome to go. Raton has such a high school. Here it was planned to construct a gymnasium and swimming pool which would serve not only the children in the public schools but also the men and women of the community who might find there recreation and wholesome amusement.

Preliminary plans were made by various groups in the city interested in the project. These groups represented practically all walks of life, from the high salaried executive to the humble railroad worker and miner. It was to be a project in which everyone was to have a part. The Board of Education sponsored the whole idea and did practically all the promotion work, with the other groups to aid financially.

The building was started during the war when the great need of physically fit men was felt more than money. The citizens of the community donated generously to the fund to the extent of about one-seventh of the needed amount. The

Board of Education, by practicing economy along certain lines, made up the rest. The building was completed in 1919 and opened for use in 1920. The entire cost of the building, exclusive of equipment, was \$50,000. About \$2500 worth of equipment is now installed, which includes gymnasium apparatus and lockers.

For a city of the size of Raton to erect a building at a cost of \$50,000 without a bond issue speaks well for the community and the Board of Education. Can other cities do it? It all depends upon how well the board of education and the taxpayers of the community cooperate. Where there is a will there is a way. Raton had the will and they found the way. The way was cooperation with all the civic agencies interested in the welfare of young people together with a far seeing Board of Education. The results were well worth the money spent. The efficiency of a building is largely determined by the number of hours it is used during the day and night and the gymnasium building has very few idle moments. It is the pride of the community and there is no one in the city who would rather have his money back and do without the gymnasium.

In the general plans of the building, two things were kept in mind: the variety of uses it could be put to and the allowing of space for increasing attendance. The gymnasium has a floor 40 x 90 feet upon which is a full sized basketball court and tennis court. A running track and spectators' gallery surrounds the entire gymnasium. There are two offices, one for the boys' director and one for the girls' director. Two club rooms are used by the Boy Scouts and the Girls' club of the high school. One of these rooms is now being fitted up as a health clinic. The swimming pool is 20 x 60 feet and ranges in depth from four to eight feet. The water is scientifically treated with filters and sterilizing outfits. There are two large locker rooms and shower bath rooms, one for the boys and one for the girls. These rooms can accommodate approximately five hundred lockers, thus allowing for an unusual growth. All rooms have natural light, are well heated with a modern heating plant and are vacuum cleaned.

The addition of the swimming pool to the building is a feature which is seldom found in the small school systems, particularly in this high and dry West. The famous "swimmin' hole" of the youngsters in the East is woefully lacking in the West. The streams are usually dry during the summer

(Continued on page 236)

## Suggestions for Camp Programs\*

### Events for Water Sports Carnival

#### 1. Spoon and Soap Race

Swim, balance cake of floating soap on table-spoon. If soap drops off, swimmer must tread water while putting it on again.

#### 2. Balloon Race

Blow colored balloon along surface of water to finish line. Balloon must not be touched.

#### 3. Candle Race

Swim with lighted candle or stick or cat-tail dipped in kerosene. Winner, first to cross line with candle still lit. Variation—swimmer may return to start to relight candle; partner may follow with torch in canoe.

#### 4. Siamese Twin Race

Two boys swimming together in various ways: front boys using hands, rear boy legs; the latter locking arms around other's waist, and front boy locking legs around the partner's waist.

Tandem: As in three-legged race, inside arms and around each other's neck, swimming with outside arms and legs.

Dead Man's Carry: Both on backs, front boy swimming with arms, having feet hooked under arm-pits of partner who floats.

#### 5. Flinging Life-buoy

Two men on team. No. 1 at start flings life-buoy to No. 2 who places it around his waist and floats while No. 1 pulls him in. First to cross-starting line wins. No. 2 must wait behind line until life-buoy has crossed line, No. 1 throwing until it does so.

#### 6. Medley Race

Swimmers must swim breast stroke five yards, crawl five yards, float five yards, dive from barrel or raft at one yard mark returning, swim on back five yards and use option stroke to finish. Vary to suit conditions.

#### 7. Obstacle Race

Various obstacles are anchored in water. Vary stunts according to local conditions.

#### 8. Umbrella Race

Canoe propelled by wind with umbrella.

#### 9. Hand Paddle Race

Six or eight small boys in flat-bottomed boat paddle to finish line close to shore.

We wish to express our appreciation to Mr. Daniel C. Beard, Mrs. Luther H. Gulick, Dr. A. M. Lehman, Dr. Gabriel Mason, Miss Mary De Witt Snyder and Mr. Harry Sperling for their kind and helpful cooperation.

## Extracts from Detroit's Recreation Report

The Sixth Annual Report which has recently been issued by the Detroit Department of Recreation describes a number of interesting activities carried on in 1921, some of which are peculiar to Detroit.

### Scootmobile Day

Unique in the annals of organized recreation, for instance, is Scootmobile Day which was held on June 25, 1921, dedicated to Detroit's little tots. Roller skates, coaster wagons, velocipedes and go-devils were brought by the children to two of the parks and after a brief talk on safety by members of the Public Safety Committee, races were run according to "vehicle."

### Model Boat Exhibit

In order to create a greater interest in boating, a Model Boat Exhibit was held in August. The interest proved to be so great that a Model Yacht Club was formed. Model yacht races were held several times during the summer and fall. The toy boats and yachts were classified according to length, power, and blue prints were available to anybody interested.

### Aquatic Day

Detroit holds annually an Aquatic Day for yachting and boating and other clubs about Detroit are invited to take part. This last year seventy-eight such clubs participated and the result was a most effective demonstration in mass recreation.

### Pageant Day

Another annual event held by Detroit's Recreation Commission is Pageant Day. The Seventh Annual Pageant, given in 1921 was called the "Gift of the Ages" and showed the

\* Reprinted by Courtesy of *The Scope*

history of the development of play—a gift to the children through the ages! Twenty-five hundred children and adults took part in this pageant.

#### *Street Playgrounds*

An experiment in street playgrounds was conducted by the Department of Recreation and the Detroit Police Department during 1921. Fifty-one streets were closed off for one block each from 2 p. m. to 5 p. m. daily. Street closing signs provided by the Police Department were placed at the appointed hour by men, women or children in each neighborhood who volunteered to act as block leaders. A recommended list of equipment was given each neighborhood and this equipment (if purchased by the people) was kept at a place agreed upon. By this means the play space of Detroit was increased 80% without any expense to the city.

#### *A Christmas Radiograph Service*

Community Christmas Carolers and a municipal Christmas tree are a permanent institution in Detroit as in many other cities. Besides these, for the Christmas of 1921, the Detroit News by means of its radiograph, sent a complete Christmas service, including sermons by a Catholic and a Protestant clergyman and carols sung by a splendidly trained choir of thirty-five voices broadcast over the state, reaching thousands of people.

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### Moving Pictures and Child Hero Worship

The part that moving pictures play in forming the child's ideals and character was forcefully brought home by Will H. Hays in a speech recently delivered at a dinner given in his honor.

"During the time when I had the acceptance of this new work under consideration I took three little cowboy suits home, one for my boy, aged six, and one for each of his cousins, ages five and eight. They took those little suits into the bedroom to put them on. I heard them quarreling in the bedroom, and I wondered what they could be fussing about under those circumstances. I went to the door and listened. They were having a quarrel as to which one when they came out to show me would be Bill Hart. Mark you,

ages five, six and eight. And finally my boy, in a very vigorous voice said "All right, then; all right, then; I will be Doug." Well, it was a lesson. It used to be when we were boys that possibly we quarreled a little over who would be Abraham Lincoln or George Washington, or if we were real nifty we might have wanted to be Buffalo Bill, but now it is who will be Bill Hart or Douglas Fairbanks or Charlie Chaplin, and so forth."

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### The Well-Being of School Children in Bay City, Michigan

FLORENCE M. LIST

Supervisor of Physical Education, Bay City Public Schools

We have in our city of 40,000 people, seven community playgrounds each with a trained man and woman director. The Community Director of Recreation is the administration officer. There are sixteen grade public schools, two junior highs and a new one-and-a-half million central high school.

The public and parochial schools have had one common league in athletic competitive games for the past two years—the purpose of this being to foster an ideal community spirit.

These seasonal games are used in the league—Newcomb and volley ball for girls in fall—soccer football for boys—basket ball for eighth grade boys' and girls' teams in winter (nine players on girls' teams) playground ball for girls in spring and playground ball and baseball for junior and senior boys respectively.

The culmination of the spring work is field day. The activities consist of track and field events and the playing of the championship final games—both boys and girls.

Every known method is used to inculcate ideals of good sportsmanship.

The Athletic badge tests are used—last year our students *earned* two hundred seventy-six of these badges—this year three hundred eighty-seven of which thirty-six were third test badges.

We do work occasionally in the country in the way of "community programs" consisting of community singing, games for both children and adults and group competition.

## Oakland as Seen from Hawaii

The Honolulu *Star Bulletin* recently carried the following article in the column known as The Newspaper Pulpit, conducted by Albert W. Palmer, minister of Central Union church. Perhaps such a message is needed by many a community not so far away as Hawaii.

### WHOLESMOME RECREATION

Everybody in Hawaii ought to know about the wonderful program of public recreation now in operation at Oakland, California. Idora Park, a dilapidated old commercialized amusement park, has recently received local mention as a "ballyhoo" monstrosity, but how many know the really great program for the whole city of Oakland put on by its municipal recreation department?

Oakland has nearly 250,000 population and something over 40,000 school children, which makes an interesting comparison with Hawaii where the figures both for population and school children are only a little larger.

But consider what Oakland does through its public recreation department in comparison with what we in Hawaii do not do.

Oakland has 51 supervised playgrounds of an average size of seven acres each. Of these 42 are adjacent to school buildings and nine are independent, most of them large athletic fields. All play activities are open free not only to children but to older people.

A unique feature of this system is an aquatic playground at Lake Merritt in the heart of the city. Here are boats and canoes and tea-rooms for lunches and picnics. Forty-two whaleboats are provided for girls' crews from different schools and Y. W. C. A. clubs.

On almost every playground there is at least a dirt tennis court and on many of them standard asphalt courts are found. Two expert tennis instructors are employed and last year 1,350 children were instructed in the game. It is planned to teach every boy and girl above the fifth grade how to play tennis. A municipal golf links has just been opened and there are eight baseball parks for older boys and young men. There are also two football fields, 125 handball and 100 volleyball courts.



FARMER GIRLS ON RAYMOND HOTEL FLOAT  
TOURNAMENT OF ROSES  
Oakland, California

Twice a year, at Christmas and on May Day, the playgrounds put on dramatic festivals or pageants. Last Christmas 3,000 people participated in the Christmas pageant and 20,000 people witnessed it. Eighteen May Day fetes were held in different grounds.

Some of the playgrounds are equipped with electric lights and are open evenings for young people who work in the day time. Five gymnasiums are thus open and five other playgrounds have field houses available for evening neighborhood events like club meetings, parties and dances.

Supervision is almost perfect. At each playground there are men supervisors for the boys and women for the girls—many of them students from the University of California who have taken courses in playground work. The department says: "Parents may send their children to these grounds with full confidence that they will be surrounded by the right influence and be as safe from harm as careful and sympathetic supervisors can insure." This is a very important point and one of the great differences between commercialized amusements run for profit and a modern public recreation program conducted for the benefit of the children.

Not content with play activities in its own boundaries, Oakland also conducts recreation camps outside the city. One of these is in the hills nearby and affords facilities for staying over night. Campers carry their own blankets but the camp provides drinking water, fireplaces.

In addition Oakland maintains a municipal camp in the heart of the Sierras not far from Yosemite. Here the city has put in a water supply, erected permanent buildings and tent platforms and last year accommodated 1,250 of its citizens in family groups. This year provision is being made for 3,000! All bring their own blankets and the outing is limited to three weeks. Each person in camp is required to do an hour's work each day and the camp is so economically managed that board and room for adults is only \$6.00 a week and for children \$5.00. A bus line makes the 160-mile trip from Oakland daily at small expense.

This summer camp is being utilized, incidentally, as a means of developing thrift and training boys and girls to look ahead and save. Through cooperation with one of the banks a campaign is conducted each year urging children to save for their vacation fund. "Save 75 cents regularly for 30 weeks and on June 1, 1922, the bank will mail you a check for \$22.50 plus interest at the rate of 4 per cent per year, if all deposits have been made regularly. This will pay for your trip, fishing tackle and extras."

Five years ago, when I was a member of the recreation commission in Oakland, our annual appropriation on which to run the playgrounds was from \$80,000 to \$100,000. I suspect, and hope, it is more now. But I submit that it was money well expended for the well-being of the future citizens of the community. Those who are to do team work in giving good government for the city of tomorrow should be learning the principles of fair play on the playgrounds of the city of today.

How all this can be applied to Hawaii is a stimulating subject for thought. I leave it with you for further consideration.

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## Recreation Congress Atlantic City

October 9-12

## Great Towns for Small\*

Why should the small town merely arouse a sneer? Here is Ober Ammergau in Bavaria, a remote little village of peasants, without one great man or famous woman, which is today honored throughout the world. What is possible in Bavaria might be the rule in Ohio, in Arkansas and in Maine. The small town is not small. It is America.

The glory of Ober Ammergau was born in sorrow. Fifty years ago that hamlet was stricken by the plague. When the scourge was removed these simple folk were grateful to God, and promised that every ten years they would themselves present a passion play, which pledge they are fulfilling. And of the life of Christ, who was Himself the small town carpenter, Ober Ammergau today furnishes the most vital of all modern interpretations. The folk there are not scholars. They are not rich. But they are disciples.

Their passion play is not given for money. The drama lasts four days and the fee—including food!—is \$1.20 of our money, actually worth 400 German marks. Curiously, one difficulty this year is to find thirty pieces of silver with which to act the part of Judas, and Anton Lang, who impersonates the Crucified, has refused \$1,000,000, offered by the movies. Ober Ammergau, therefore, has bred a race of great actors and actresses who will only act for love. Their fees are nominal, but not their reverence, not their industry, not their noble piety.

No small town need be dull where such a spirit prevails. In the lonely dales of Wordsworth's country, of Westmoreland, England—to give another case—every village has its choir, and every year the choirs compete. The musical week at Kendal, with only 15,000 inhabitants, has become of national importance. Composers there present their works for the first time. The farmer's son, his daughter, his laborer, produce executants on many instruments. The long winter is not too long for practice on violin, piano and flute. The rural society has been saved from dull routine. It throbs with melody.

We are tired of churches where only the paid choir sings, of games where thousands are merely fans, of theatres where the audience "stops, looks and listens," but contributes nothing save the price of a seat. Let us ourselves produce. Let us learn of Ober Ammergau the duty of initiative.

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\* Courtesy of Evening Mail, N. Y.

## Volley Ball on the Playgrounds

GEORGE W. BRADEN

Four National Agencies—the National Collegiate Athletic Association, the Young Men's Christian Association Athletic League, the Boy Scouts of America and The Playground and Recreation Association of America joined in the adoption of the official rules for 1922, the Playground and Recreation Association of America being represented by Dr. Wm. Burdick of Baltimore, Lee Hanmer of New York and the writer.

The more important changes in the official rules as adopted are as follows:

1. Scooping, lifting, shoving or following the ball should be considered as holding.
2. Reaching over the net, under any circumstances whatsoever, constitutes a foul.
3. A player may not "spike" or "kill" the ball when he is playing a back position.
4. A player who touches the ball, or is touched by the ball when it is in play, shall be considered as playing the ball.
5. In case of a double foul the ball shall be played over.
6. A center line, two inches in width, shall be pointed immediately beneath and parallel to the net.
7. The scorer shall keep the official score and make decisions regarding crossing the center line below the net. The scorer may also assist the referee in any other manner which may be agreed upon by the referee and the scorer.
8. When the score is tied at 14-14 it shall be necessary for one team to score two successive points (making a total of 16 points), in the same service, to win. When only one point is made on the service, the score reverts to 14-14.

The changes were made in line with suggestions from many different groups and from all parts of the United States and Canada.

Volley ball has for many years been recognized as one of the most popular, serviceable and widely used playground games.

Some of the reasons for volley ball being so popular and widely used on the playground are: (a) It can be safely and enthusiastically played by young and old of both sexes. (b) Those of limited strength, skill and endurance find volley ball a suitable, satisfying and healthful sport, while at the same time it can be used for match games and tournaments demanding a high order of skill and scientific play. (c) For informal games the number of players may vary from five to twenty on a side without destroying the pleasure and profit. (d) The equipment consisting of ball,

net and movable or fixed supports for the net is—considering the number of players involved—less expensive than the equipment for most team games. (e) There can be considerable variation in the size of the court or playing space without lessening the fun and physical values. (f) Except for match games, it is not usually necessary for the players to make a change of clothing—this factor making it more serviceable for playground use than certain other games where change of clothing



George W. Braden

Lee F. Hanmer

Dr. Wm. Burdick

Representatives of the Playground and Recreation Association of America, in Volley Ball Conference

and a shower are not only desirable but necessary.

One factor in increasing the use of the game on the playgrounds has been the introduction of the adjustable and movable net supports. The movable and socket type of net supports makes it possible to clear the playing space

(Continued on page 231)

# Three Years' Work of the National Physical Education Service

## STATE CAMPAIGNS

When the National Physical Education Service was established in November, 1918, eleven states had laws for the promotion of physical education, four of this number having state supervisors. There are now twenty-eight states having such laws, with thirteen full time and two part time state supervisors.

The increase in state appropriations for physical education since 1918 is approximately \$278,000. The increase in the amount of local appropriations in that period is estimated to be \$405,000. The estimated increase in the number of children receiving physical education is 500,000.

### *1919 Campaign*

With only one month to prepare for the legislative campaign in the winter of 1919, a good physical education law was secured in Michigan, and assistance was given in the securing of laws in Maine, Utah, Washington and Oregon. In the last three states physical education manuals have been prepared and distributed to the teachers. Utah now has a full time state director.

### *1920 Campaign*

During the winter of 1920, Physical Education laws were enacted in Virginia, Kentucky and Mississippi. Pennsylvania passed a law placing Physical Education among the subjects required to be taught by public schools. On the strength of that action, Dr. Finegan, State Commissioner of Education, has established a strong Department of Physical Education with several workers who are stimulating the establishment of Physical Education in the communities and counties throughout the State of Pennsylvania.

The Virginia law carried an annual appropriation of 50,000, \$25,000 for medical inspection through the State Health Department, and \$25,000 for the Physical Education activities program in the State Department of Education.

Georgia enacted a law similar to the Kentucky law, and the administration has thus far been in the hands of a woman assigned by the State Uni-

versity. Local officials report great progress in spite of the entire lack of compulsory features.

### *1921 Campaign*

During the winter of 1921, laws were enacted in Missouri, North Carolina, Connecticut, West Virginia and Massachusetts.

Although the Missouri law carried no appropriation, the State Superintendent of Education found the necessary funds in his general budget to employ a State Director of Physical Education. The law is very good and the promotion work is starting well with the strong backing of the State Superintendent of Education.

North Carolina appropriated \$20,000, but because of the discrepancy between the amounts appropriated and the taxation provided by the legislature, operation of the law has been delayed until next year. The Superintendent of Education is putting a man in training who will eventually take the position of State Director of Physical Education.

The Connecticut law carried the compulsory features; the expenses met from the general administrative funds. A Division of Physical Education has been set up in the State Department of Education and a competent Supervisor of Physical Education has been employed.

In West Virginia no special Physical Education law was passed, but an appropriation of \$10,000 was made, part of which was designated for the promotion of Physical Education. The State Superintendent of Education reports that a special Physical Education program was carried on at all teacher's institutes or conferences during the last six months, and that part of the time of one of his assistants is being devoted to the state-wide promotion of the program. A special State Committee is now drafting a Bill to be recommended to the next legislature.

A full-time State Supervisor of Physical Education has been employed in Massachusetts. Physical Education is placed among the required subjects to be taught in all public and private schools. The State Commissioner of Education has received some funds to start promotion work

and has been assured of \$10,000 for the 1922 budget.

#### NATIONAL LEGISLATION

In February 1919 thirty national organizations joined in the campaign for universal physical education in the schools. A year later the original Fess-Capper Physical Education Bill was introduced in Congress, proposing Federal leadership and stimulus to states in extending physical education to all children. In May 1920 occurred the first hearings on the Fess-Capper Bill before the Senate Committee on Education and Labor. A promise of national legislation for physical education was included in the Republican Campaign platform. The Democratic leaders also promised support. In February 1921 there were extensive hearings on the Bill before the House Committee on Education, following which Fess-Capper Bill, H. R. 22—S. 416 (revised to overcome a number of reasonable objections) was introduced in Congress.

The bill now rests in the Committees on Education of both the Senate and the House. The Republicans promise ultimate action in fulfillment of the Party pledge, but during the present session are discouraging the reporting of any bills involving appropriations for new governmental activities. Leaders in the House Committee on Education have up to the present time agreed that the Towner-Sterling bill for a Department of Education must have right of way. The report on that bill has been delayed by the uncertainty of the plans for reorganizing Federal departments.

Every effort is now being made to convince the President, the members of the Educational Committee of the House, and other leaders in Congress that this Physical Education Bill, coming in response to the lessons of the War, definitely promised by the Party leaders, not involved in the reorganization problem, should be acted on without further delay.

#### Physical Education Representatives at the White House

Representatives of twenty-five organizations devoted to athletics, physical education, health and education called upon President Harding in the spring to request his personal leadership in the effort to secure universal physical education in the schools of the United States.

No specific bill was urged, but the need for a strong federal stimulus was emphasized on the ground that through local and state governments only one-tenth of the school children of the nation are now being trained physically.

Mr. Gustavus T. Kirby spoke for the group as follows:

"Mr. President, I presume there are several reasons why I have been chosen to act as spokesman for this group interested in universal physical education. My interest in this subject is of long standing. As one of the organizers of the Playground and Recreation Association of America, as one of the organizers of the first Public Schools Athletic League, and as past President of the American Olympic Committee, I have tried by every means to further the interest of wholesome sport and physical training in America.

"All who are here today represent National organizations which in various ways have been supporting the movement for universal physical education of the school children of this Nation.

"Investigations have shown that not more than 1-10 of the school children now receive special training for health, normal physical development and an appreciation of the meaning of good sportsmanship.

"Our experiences in the recent war showed the results of this neglect in a physically impaired manhood. In peace times the devitalizing effect of physical illiteracy and ignorance is just as real even though less clearly discernible.

"It is our conviction that the National government cannot carry adequately the responsibilities of national defense and the promotion of general welfare unless the states and local communities train the children for health and physical vigor.

"We, therefore, heartily approve the pledge for National stimulation for universal physi-

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#### RECREATION CONGRESS

Atlantic City

O C T O B E R 9 - 12

# Non-Skid Recreation

A Pathological Conference Capitulates to Play

JOHN BEARDSLEE CARRIGAN

Divorce, sterilization of degenerates and deadly narcotics were the subjects Northwest social workers had gathered in convention to discuss.

The program of the Washington State Conference of Social Work which met in Yakima, Washington, in May, reads like chapter titles of a textbook in pathology. Means for making divorce more difficult were decided, sterilization of undesirables was approved and narcotics were threatened with war to the death, but there was no jubilation among this earnest group of 150 social crusaders. There was a troublesome question in the air. Methods had been approved for the salvage of damaged goods but wherein lay salvation for the parts of the social structure which still were sound? They were realizing that social decay is not a static condition, that to try and cure the results of moral decomposition, while taking little account of the causes and progression of the disease, is faulty science.

Thus it was that out of pathological conference came an eager consideration of the possibilities of play. Relegated to secondary consideration in the program, recreation became the paramount issue.

In such a group as this, trained in the study of human beings and human relationships, the great force for the building of health and character played by proper recreation was of course recognized. That certain social agencies were devoting their energies to this field was well known. But the findings of the conference committee on delinquency and correction came as a distinct shock.

"Boys are improving morally and girls are retrograding in the State of Washington," it was stated. "The improvement in conduct of boys is due to the effective community interest which is now being taken in the boy problem by such organizations as the Boy Scouts, Young Men's Christian Association and Community Service, and to the work of business men's clubs, such as Rotary and Kiwanis. We attribute the moral toboggan of our girls to the lack of such community interest in their development and to the insufficiency of such agencies as the Camp Fire Girls, Girl Scouts and Young Women's Christian Association at a time when organized effort is

doubly needed, because of ignorance and lax parental care which are causing failure to meet and solve the problems raised by the new freedom of the modern girl."

In short, delinquency among boys in Washington is declining because of increased effort in providing organized recreation, and immorality among girls is increasing because of a failure to provide sufficient organized recreation, for all of the agencies mentioned by the committee are attacking the problem of character building through organized recreation. Nor was this a committee composed of interested representatives of these agencies. The committee was formed chiefly of probation officers, juvenile court workers and school attendance officers.

## FAULTY RECREATION OFTEN AT THE ROOT

Reconsidered in the light of its sources, the other problems which had been attacked by the conference, also revealed as one of their most vital causes insufficient, faulty or immoral recreation.

Thus examined, for example, divorce, which is chiefly caused by unsound marriage and unhappy family life, was seen to rise in large part from the criminal neglect of proper recreation in the modern community. With a broad recreational life for each community young men and women would have a chance to meet suitable companions and learn of each other's fitness for compatible marriage. With a rich recreational life it was seen that the chance of unhappiness in the marital relation would be proportionately decreased. The personal relationship of married men and women is largely a contact during their leisure hours. Work and sleep occupy two thirds of the average day. It is in the leisure period after work and before sleep that the relationship can either flower or wither. Enrichment and safeguarding of this period is therefore a practical insurance of family life.

Again, Canon H. Bliss, President of the National White Cross Society, emphasized the connection between drug addiction and faulty recreation.

"New victims of the drug habit," said Canon Bliss, "are usually seeking amusement and pleasure. The commercial cabarets, dance halls and chop-suey joints are the breeding ground of new addicts. In these unguarded recreation centers the drug peddler is supreme. Every addict is his ally, for, once converted to drugs, the addict becomes a fiendish and insidious disciple of its use."

"Try this; you'll like it," says the addict to his victim. And "just for fun," more often than not, the little white powder is tried. Once enjoyed, the second time is almost a surety, and a new addict has been added to the traffic in bodies and souls. This is an exact history of what happened to seven Seattle high school students, for example, on a chop-suey slumming party. Today all seven of these children are hopeless addicts."

The importance of the drug habit, in which improper recreation plays such an important part, is indicated by Canon Bliss in his estimate of 33,000 drug addicts in the State of Washington alone. It is estimated that there are 2,000,000 to 4,000,000 addicts in the United States today.

#### PREVENTION THROUGH IMPROVEMENT OF SOCIAL CONDITIONS

It was such revelations as this brought the conference face to face with the recreation issue. The transition of the discussion from consideration of means of rehabilitating social wreckage to prevention through improvement of social conditions, with the emphasis placed on provision of sufficient proper recreation, was gradual. The contribution of each succeeding speaker was progressively emphatic. The committee reports heaped fuel on the smouldering fires of conviction, and by the third day the interest of the entire convention was riveted on the problems of recreation for prevention.

The final morning of the conference was given up entirely to its discussion and to recreation demonstrations by local Yakima agencies. The institutional recreation viewpoint was expressed by Miss Zada French, of the Seattle Y. M. C. A., the community recreation program was outlined by Major Roy W. Winton, Northwest District Representative of Community Service, Inc., and the attitude of rehabilitation agencies, in the light of the previous discussion, was covered by Judge Walter J. Thompson, of the Tacoma Social Hygiene Society.

Again, at the farewell luncheon tendered the delegates by the Yakima Commercial Club, approval and encouragement of the organized recreational movement was the topic of every speaker. It was a startling metamorphosis, revealing a growing intelligence in social work in the Northwest, and a broadness of vision among its workers.

#### THE RECREATION PROVIDED MUST BE THE RIGHT KIND

And in consideration of the sort of recreation which would solve these problems, the point was never overlooked that the recreation which must be sought by individuals, recreation agencies and communities, must be non-skid recreation. The young people of America, it was stated, have been skidding long enough, and often their parents have not been far behind them.

It is often said that we do not have sufficient opportunity for recreation in America, which is undoubtedly true, but in providing such opportunity it is doubly important to make sure that it is sound recreation which is being provided.

The community program of recreation which centers on the family and the neighborhood received the emphatic approval of the conference. "I believe, for example, that all public dance halls for commercial purposes, should be abolished and community dances under chaperonage of reputable women should be established in their place. Young people must have recreation and, if we do not provide safe means, the evil places will prevail," said Mr. R. H. Hassell, Probation Officer for Everett and Snohomish County, who was a spokesman for the committee on delinquency and correction.

And so it came to pass that the Washington State Conference of Social Work adopted the following resolution and addressed it to Community Service, Inc.:

"Be it resolved that in its opinion Community Service should extend its operations even to the most rural districts, cooperating with the other agencies already there established in order to meet the need of those who are deprived of the social, educational and recreational activities and advantages so necessary for the development of the American family."

This will be the battle cry of the growing campaign for non-skid recreation in the State of Washington.

# Some Recreation Problems Discussed

At the meeting of the American Physical Education Association held at Detroit in May, some very important recreational problems were discussed in the Playground and Recreation Section of the conference of which Mr. C. E. Brewer, Recreation Commissioner of Detroit, served as chairman.

Some of the questions arousing most interest as reported by Mr. Brewer for *THE PLAYGROUND*, were as follows:

## THE ADMINISTRATION OF A RECREATION SYSTEM

The discussion which centered around the question as to whether recreation should be combined with the Park Department or Board of Education or conducted as a separate department was indicative of the eagerness with which the people who are engaged in recreation work are looking for light on this important subject and are weighing the evidence which the advocates of the three different forms of administration were able to produce as the result of their experiences. Following the discussions it was announced as the opinion of those present that a separate department should handle all public recreation for the following reasons:

(A) The recreation department is the coordinator of all resources of the city and provides the means of cooperation through which these facilities may be used.

(B) Departments created for other work are loaded with that work, and find it difficult to give adequate attention to the recreation work.

(C) A separate recreation department has recreation uppermost in mind, and the personnel is selected for recreation work.

(D) Mixing recreation work with school, park, jails, police or charity departments, is dangerous to the success of the work.

(E) School boards, park departments and other departments have larger appropriations. If budgets are cut, recreation work is the first one to be curtailed.

(F) Separate recreation systems are able to secure larger budgets because the work of the department is not confused with streets, sewers, boulevards, jails, prisons and similar facilities.

(G) A separate system created for studying,

organizing and administrating recreation needs can more readily be held responsible.

(H) Recreation interests are likely to be kept more permanently before the community.

(I) Recreation problems receive more enthusiastic support from recreation advocates if not a part of some older and already established department.

(J) A separate department head is able to devote all his time and attention to vital and important recreation problems.

The point was further made that in any city from fifteen per cent to twenty per cent go to school thirty-three hours and play about fifty-one hours of the week after school hours. From eighty to eighty-five per cent work eight hours, sleep eight hours and have about twenty-two hours per week for play. The Board of Education is not interested in those who do not attend school; thus eighty-five per cent are not being taken care of unless a separate department is created.

Twenty-nine states in the Union, it was stated, have made play a part of their school program, requiring at least twenty minutes of play a day. Some of those taking part in the discussion felt that if the Fess-Capper Federal Physical Education Bill should be passed, creating under the State Board of Instruction Physical Education Departments making regular appropriations out of tax funds, the securing of separate appropriations to special recreation departments might, as a result, be a much more difficult matter. The fact was brought out that the Fess-Capper Bill includes children of school age but in many of the state legislative bills no mention of age requirements is made, thereby making it possible for school boards to legislate themselves in as the official recreation body. Whether the school boards would take over all public recreation work would depend upon the progressiveness of the board.

(In connection with the whole subject of administration of recreation systems recreation officials may be interested in calling to mind the chapter on administration in the booklet *Community Recreation* published by the Playground and Recreation Association of America and

Community Service, in which the advantages of the recreation board over other forms of administration are discussed and also the September 1912 issue of *THE PLAYGROUND* containing an article entitled *Which Municipal Body Can Best Conduct Public Recreation* in which the various forms of administration are discussed in detail.)

#### THE RECREATION WORKER

The recreation worker, his duties and responsibilities and the conditions controlling his appointment received careful consideration.

##### *Civil Service Appointments*

A discussion of the question "Are Civil Service examinations for recreation workers satisfactory?" brought out the consensus of opinion that Civil Service is not satisfactory because the success of the playground work is due to the personality of the worker plus experience. This can not be brought out satisfactorily, it was felt, in an examination, although it was conceded that a probationary period of six months may solve the question. Another element entering into the success of Civil Service lies in the Civil Service Commissioners.

It was felt that if a Civil Service examination is required it should include:

- (A) A written examination
- (B) A practical test, that is, physical, such as:—pull-up, broad jump, to bring out physical defects which are latent and would escape the medical examiner
- (C) Practical demonstration with a group of thirty or forty children or adults, upon the playground
- (D) Physical examination
- (E) Oral interview to get the attitude and view-point of the applicant

In lieu of a Civil Service examination, it was the consensus of opinion of the meeting, there should be some standard set up, whether it be through a personnel department, or as it was suggested, the acceptance of certain educational qualifications, such as:—diploma from a college or a certificate from a school. The minimum requirements for a recreation worker should be at least a high school education. A college education or at least two years in college was considered preferable. In lieu of the college training the candidates should have a sufficient amount

of actual experience to warrant their becoming recreation workers.

##### *Salaries*

On the question of salaries some felt that competent supervisors could be secured for \$1200 a year as the minimum, this amount depending, of course, upon the size of the community and of the budget. The majority of those present felt that the salaries for competent recreation workers should parallel, or be a little higher, than those of high school teachers.

##### *Where Shall the Recreation Leader Work?*

The amount of time a recreation worker should spend out in the community introduced the thought of community responsibility which is so significant in the new conception of the place of recreation in civic life. During the preliminary organization it was felt the worker should spend at least ninety per cent of his time getting acquainted with his community. After this preliminary organization is over the larger amount of time may be spent in the center, but the worker should not draw within his shell and lose all contact with his community.

#### PLAYGROUND STANDARDS

The question, "Can and should a playground standard, which with modifications might be used in the various cities, be adopted?" brought out many points of view on what is meant by a playground standard. It was felt that certain activities could be standardized, but much stress was laid upon the fact that the standard must not be routine, nor must the work be allowed to become too mechanical. A standard daily program of work which would be considered a minimum program for the efficient conduct of playground activities might, it was thought, be put into effect. There could, too, be a standard set for the minimum amount of apparatus essential for the successful conduct of a playground. Standards for nomenclature of games, of apparatus and the number of individuals a play leader can competently supervise on the playground could and should, it was believed, be adopted.

It was felt that the course for playground and recreation workers adopted by the Playground and Recreation Association in 1907 should be revised and the standards suggested included in that course.

## SOME PRACTICAL PROBLEMS

*Methods of Keeping Attendance*

"What methods of keeping attendance may be universally adopted by recreation departments?" A vote on this much discussed question showed that of the three methods discussed the first (A) was felt to be the best.

(A) Take the attendance each period or session, i. e., morning, afternoon and evening, and allow ten to fifteen per cent for the floating attendance. The day's total is the sum of the attendance of the periods.

(B) Take the attendance early in the afternoon and at the height of attendance. Add the two totals and divide by two, thus giving the average attendance, with no allowance for floating attendance.

(C) Tally and register count,—i. e., take the attendance each hour and add the total. Some felt that the average stay of a child on the playgrounds is one hour. The majority did not agree, but felt the average stay was from two to three hours, depending upon the director's ability to make the playground and its activities attractive.

*Dues and Charges*

Those present were divided on the question as to whether or not admission fees should be charged for recreation activities. Some took the stand that no admission fee should be charged for any activity on public property; others felt that there was no distinction between charging for golf links or swimming pools or charging for a community entertainment or dance. On the other hand, it was claimed by some that a charge was legitimate for golf and swimming pools because of the large overhead. In some cities the discussion showed membership dues collected in lieu of the admission fee in activities organized as clubs. In other cities various clubs are permitted to charge admission if they pay all the cost and give a certain percentage of the gross receipts to the building or center. There was a feeling on the part of some that the activity and the property would be much more appreciated and more interest taken in them if the participants were required to pay a small sum. Those having another point of view maintained that as long as people were paying taxes to maintain these activities, there should be no admission charge for their use.

*Leadership for Adult Clubs*

It was felt as a result of the discussion on the amount of leadership necessary for adult clubs, that regardless of age when any organization or group of people used a public facility there should be some supervision, because of the fact that the school board or other organization controlling the building will always hold the recreation department responsible for any groups meeting in that building which are held under the auspices of the department of recreation.

*Industrial Leagues*

The organization and financing of industrial leagues has in the main, the discussion showed, three methods of operation.

(A) The activities of the industrial teams may be financed by the employer through the Welfare Department.

(B) The activities may be financed through athletic organizations created in the shops

(C) Financing may be accomplished through collections on the ball field or the charging of admission at the gate

The discussion brought out the fact that where leagues are forced to depend upon their own resources they usually have a deficit which the employer must make up. The system of taking collections on the ball field does not prove very profitable, as the amounts collected do not, in most instances cover the expense. Many leagues require each team to pay into the league a sufficient sum of money at the beginning of the season to meet the expenses connected with the league.

The meetings of the Playground and Recreation Section of the Convention closed with the election of Frank S. Marsh, Superintendent of Recreation at Middletown, Ohio, as Chairman of the Section for the Convention to be held in Springfield, Massachusetts in 1923.

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*Volley Ball on the Playgrounds*

(Continued from page 214)

when desired for mass games, athletics and other organized team games. The ball is really the only part of the equipment which is indispensable for informal—just for fun—play, as children have been seen time and again playing on a space of odd dimensions and indifferent surfacing with a clothesline stretched between two trees.

# Buffalo Recreation Survey\*

CHAUNCEY J. HAMLIN

Chairman Recreation Committee, Social Welfare Conference of Buffalo

## I. THE PROBLEM

Only in the past generation has recreation assumed its present prominent place as one of the primary functions of government. With the tremendous growth of our cities, accompanied by the speeding-up process in commerce and industry, there has come general observance of the necessity for properly organizing and directing the leisure-time activities both of children and of adults, so that their spare hours may be profitably occupied. No city which has a decent regard for its own welfare will fail to provide its people with an adequate, well-rounded program of wholesome activity for the "hours of play" which can be used to such great advantage in the development of the right kind of American citizenship.

Spare time provides the largest unused time asset in a city's life. Industry and commerce occupy working hours, the schools occupy the study periods, but what occupies the spare time? Just as the West was a long time the great treasury of resources for our country, so spare time is the great treasury of unused or partly used resources of modern life. The problem is not solely a problem of child life. In building a recreational program for our city, no less attention should be paid to the problem of solving the recreational needs of adult life than is given to providing recreational facilities for youths and children.

An exhaustive survey recently conducted in the city of Cleveland has brought forth some conclusions which are of universal application and of importance to us in visualizing our local problem. A table giving the percentage distribution by age groups of total recreational hours spent at home and away from home shows at a glance that about half the recreational hours of children are generally spent at home, only forty per cent of the recreational hours of youths

is spent at home, while 75% of the recreational hours of adults is spent there.

The estimated percentage distribution of away from home recreational hours by the different types of agencies by different age groups shows that by far the largest proportion—seventy-five per cent—of the time spent by children away from home is spent in the parks, playgrounds, streets, or vacant lots, while the largest per cent of the time spent away from home by the youths—to wit, forty per cent—is spent at commercial entertainments furnished by the movies, dance halls, theaters, pool rooms. On the other hand, the largest percentage of time spent by adults away from home—fifty per cent—is spent at clubs, lodges and similar gatherings.

## COMMERCIALIZED RECREATION TAKES TWENTY PER CENT OF LEISURE TIME

The fifth largest industry in the United States, so far as amount of capital involved is concerned, is the moving picture industry. When you add to this the money invested in theaters, amusement parks, pool rooms, public dance halls, cabarets, it will be seen that commercialized recreation is the largest of any industry in the United States, not only in the amount of capital involved but in the number of people it reaches and affects. Commercialized recreation, if properly controlled, is a very important and valuable factor in helping to solve the problem presented by the proper use of leisure time. It has been estimated that it takes care of about twenty per cent of the recreational hours available. It follows from these considerations that government is not on the wrong track when it devotes more time and consideration to this greatest of all unused assets of community life, the remaining eighty per cent of leisure time available.

Another important fact brought out by the Cleveland survey emphasizes the great tendency toward indoor sedentary types of recreation on the part of adults. In building a recreational program for Buffalo, this tendency should, in my judgment so far as possible, be combatted by

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providing more adequate facilities for enjoyment of health—giving outdoor recreation for youths and adults. This, however, must be brought about in part by instilling in the children: first; more healthy interest in outdoor games which will lead in later life to the enjoyment of playing baseball, tennis, golf and other outdoor games suited to adult interests. This, of course, must necessarily be followed by the provision of facilities for such games; second, a love and understanding of nature and an enjoyment of life in the open, in exploring the woods, hill, stream and shore, such as will create in the individual

for the adolescent youth, but contributing on the whole very materially to lessening the city's problem for the provision of park areas within its borders. The automobile today can hardly be treated as a means of conveyance for only the privileged few. Many more people own cars now than owned horses in the last generation. Statistics show that there is one automobile for every eleven persons in Erie county, and many a pleasant Saturday or Sunday will see the entire family bound for the country, piled into the back of a Ford delivery wagon converted for the occasion into a commodious touring car.



The early development of an interest in exploring the woods, hill, stream and shore will create a life-long interest and delight in nature.

a life long interest. This, of course, must be followed in turn by providing the facilities for the enjoyment of this interest, perhaps through a belt of outlying parks and forest preserves in Erie County, places where one might not only go for a day's outing, but where one could as well pitch tent and live in the open for some days at a time.

The automobile has to a large extent changed the entire complexion of city life. It is easy now for the average citizen to get out of the city into the country, where a few years ago it was extremely difficult. The automobile has become a very large factor in the recreational life of the modern city, creating serious problems, it is true,

#### SPARE TIME HABITS STARTED IN CHILDHOOD

Laying the proper foundation in children will tend to give a turn in the right direction, as has been pointed out above, to the types of recreation that will be followed in later years in life during the hours spent away from home. Just so the character of instruction which the children receive in school will tend to influence the way in which the increasing number of recreational hours spent at home will be employed in later life. It is found that all spare time habits started early in life are permanent. There is a clear inference that the school could and should by proper treatment of the subjects of the

curriculum, for instance, reading, music, and scientific and art interests, build up spare time habits and help lay foundations of rounded out and purposeful adult recreational life. This effort on the part of the schools must necessarily be followed by the provision of adequate and convenient facilities for obtaining books for home reading through the public library and its well located branches, facilities for the enjoyment and participation in music through a real music hall and the use of local community center halls, and facilities for the enjoyment and pursuit of science through a natural history museum and its extension lecture courses, and of art through our art museum and its extension work which might very well be planned to reach every section of the city.

It is evident that, while a well-rounded recreational programme should be designed to touch all classes and ages, the foundation for the same must be laid very largely among children of school age. Hence, the balance of this paper will be devoted to a discussion, to a large extent, of a recreational program for children, and necessarily will first consider the problem of the under-privileged child and deal with those sections of the city where such children are found in the greatest numbers.

#### PRELIMINARY RECREATION SURVEY

A committee appointed by the Social Welfare Conference in the spring of 1921, representing eleven organizations, undertook to make a preliminary survey of the recreational needs and facilities of the city of Buffalo. This committee with a membership of upwards of thirty voluntary workers drawn in a large part from the expert talent of the various Social Agencies in this city, has, by using a large share of their leisure time, which perhaps should have been devoted to personal recreation, conducted what will prove to be a very valuable series of investigations. For the sake of convenience the city was divided into nine geographical districts and a sub-committee has been in charge of the survey in each of these districts. A program of facilities in an ideally supplied district was placed in the hands of each sub-committee, and their first task was to check the existing facilities within their district against this ideal program. This first step was completed during the summer months last year and early in the fall the committees presented their preliminary reports.

At the same time there was presented a report from a separate sub-committee on the recreational facilities found in the churches of the city and also from a separate sub-committee a report on the city's playgrounds.

Certain recommendations were made by a number of the subcommittees upon this occasion which were later formulated in concrete form for the use of all. It was clearly evident from the reports submitted that there was a great need for the correlation of recreational facilities in the city and that there was a sad lack of these facilities in those parts of the city where they were most needed. Thereupon it was determined to ask each district sub-committee to plot in a uniform manner, upon a map of their district all of the various recreation facilities found to exist within their district, and, secondly, following the recommendation of one of the subcommittees, to conduct a questionnaire survey among all of the eighth grade children in the schools of the city as to their use of their leisure time. These reports have been collected and analyzed, and some of the conclusions to be drawn from them will be indicated. It was also suggested that each district sub-committee, in the course of making its survey, should get in touch with as many local organizations and people as might be interested, with the object in view of ultimately creating in each district a local sentiment which might be crystallized into the activities of a purely local committee. It is hoped that eventually each local committee will adopt a recreational program for its community, together with a program of urgency, and that the several local committees will cooperate one with the other in seeking the municipal support necessary to carry into execution their several programs.

#### EXPERIENCES OF OTHER CITIES

Coincident with the conduct of the actual field survey, a very careful study has been made of the experience of other cities, and certain conclusions in regard to some of the phases of the problem have thus been reached. For instance, in regard to playgrounds, we find that playgrounds naturally divide themselves into three categories: 1. Junior playground for children under ten years of age where boys and girls play together. This should be located next to the public school in order to take advantage of the school plant which should be utilized throughout

the year. To eliminate the necessity of dangerous street crossings by children going to and from the grounds, this type of ground should be located between rather than on major streets. The area served by such a ground should not be more than a quarter of a mile in radius and less than this where barriers such as railroad yards or industrial establishments occur. The playground should include at least an acre of usable land about 200 ft. x 300 ft. for the use of sand piles, wading pool, and drinking fountain; and swings, see-saw, benches, a flag and shelters should be included in its equipment, as well as open space for supervised games and apparatus. 2. Senior playground for children over ten years where the play areas for boys and girls are separate. This playfield should be next to the public school also, for the physical needs are much the same as the junior type. Both types may be combined with other recreational facilities such as a park or athletic field, but should be operated separately, independently, and without conflict. Senior playgrounds will draw children from a distance ranging from one-half to one mile. Usable land in these grounds should be approximately two acres. Each portion should be equipped with facilities for indoor baseball and basket ball, bowling, outdoor gymnasium, flag, shelters, open space for supervised games to be used for skating in winter and open air theatre on summer evenings, swimming pool, and drink-

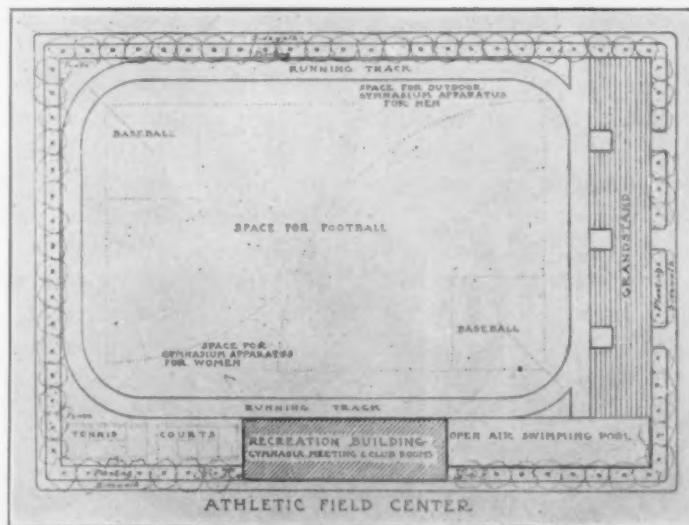
ing fountain. 3. Athletic field center. This should be provided with tennis courts, running track, baseball and football grounds, and locker building. Such fields will serve a territory of a mile or more in radius and should be approximately five acres in size. Since they are intended primarily for older youths or adults, they may be located on or near main thoroughfares or in connection with larger parks.

In case the junior or senior playgrounds should not be located in connection with a public school building where the schools would be assured of a more intensified all year round use, there should be provided an adequate building which would have as a minimum a small auditorium, toilets, drinking fountain, lockers, storage space, office and dressing room for supervisor. Such a building should be located along the side or in the corner of the space. Apparatus should be as close as possible to the fence or house.

#### BUFFALO NOT YET ADEQUATELY SUPPLIED

On the basis of the above consideration, it is evident that, in view of the fact that we have in Buffalo today only twenty-five playgrounds, public and private, we are very inadequately supplied with these facilities that are so important to health and character building. Not only are we poorly supplied with playgrounds, but a comparison of the facilities which our children enjoy

(Continued on page 235)



Athletic field centre. Courtesy of Citizens' Committee on City Plan of Pittsburgh.



#### BUSINESS MEN'S DAY

"Many an office worker nursed bruised thumbs and fingers and an aching back as the result of that unaccustomed manual labor."

## The House That Peru Built

GENEVIEVE FOX

Peru, Indiana, has a community house which she boasts is worth \$25,000 and cost only \$5,000. How did she get such a bargain? Why, 268 men gave 3,035 hours of perfectly good time without pay to the building of it.

They began operations the day after Christmas when a dozen men in spite of cold and sleet and rain turned out with picks and shovels and dug the holes for the cement foundation posts. Then ninety-six men celebrated New Year's Day by hauling cinders, carrying boards and driving nails.

During the next three weeks it became popular for men to take their setting up exercises down on the community house lot instead of at home or in the gymnasium. Masonry, carpentry, painting and plumbing were all the work of volunteers.

Not a few were professionals who handled laths and boards and nails with dexterity born only

with practice but many an office worker nursed bruised thumbs and fingers and an aching back as a result of that unaccustomed manual labor. However, neither broken backs nor bruises, nor cold weather nor stormy weather could lessen the enthusiasm of these volunteer workmen.

It was a representative of the national organization of Community Service who set the idea of a community house in motion but this idea, like a snowball rolling down hill, once started, travelled very rapidly rolling up more and more interest as it went.

From start to finish the building was a product of community wide effort. Twenty-five business men advanced the money for the lot. The unions contributed skilled labor and amateur volunteers performed all the unskilled work. Among these volunteers were members of the manual training

class of the High School who received credit in their regular work for what they did on the building. The Chamber of Commerce set aside a special day when its members turned out in force to help and even the Mayor donned overalls and turned to. Each of two large manufacturing concerns contributed stoves to warm the building for the workmen. The Rebeccas, The Ben Hur Ladies, the W. C. T. U., the Camp Fire Girls and different girls' Bible classes took turns cooking the free dinners that were served every day to the workmen.

The roast pig dinner on New Year's Day was a good example of the way the Peruvians pulled together. The pig was donated by a farmer, butchered by a local butcher free of charge, roasted in one of the big ovens by a neighboring baker also free of charge, and served by the Camp Fire Girls in the dining room of a laundry across the street from the community house lot. The ice cream and the after dinner cigars and the flowers which were presented to the ladies who cooked the meal were all donated.

The result is that Peru has a community house that any city might be proud to claim. It provides a place for the young people to play volley ball or basket ball on a good hard-wood floor and when they want to put on a big game and invite their friends to come and look on there is plenty of room for spectators. This same big hall will be used for exhibitions, for concerts, holiday celebrations and all the general good times that Peruvians may be moved to concoct. It will solve the problems of housing the Chautauqua next year and will provide a meeting place for conventions. Upstairs there are rooms which will serve as headquarters for the Women's Club, Camp Fire Girls, and other local organizations.



IT BEGINS TO LOOK LIKE A BUILDING

The building will be open every day and every night through the week except Sunday and there is pretty sure to be something going on every day and every night that it is open. Already recreation in Peru has been given a boom. Not only are the industrial basket ball teams and the Rotarian and Kiwanis teams and all the other lively basket ball players going stronger than ever, but people who have never played basket ball or volley ball in their lives are learning. Girls' teams and boys' teams, women's teams and men's teams are being organized by the Community Service secretary and volunteer leaders for all kinds of athletic games are being discovered and trained.

There is going to be plenty going on at the new building and there is going to be a lot more play this next year in Peru now that Peruvians have a house especially built to play in.

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"Recreation, paradoxical as it may seem, is too serious a matter to be left in private hands. Especially is this true in the case of large amusement enterprises.

"The history of commercialized amusement is that too often it falls into the hands of men who betray the trust that their public responsibility entails.

"The remedy is for recreation to be made a government function. In many of its aspects it is more important than any other work the government is doing.

"Clean recreation is a safeguard for national health of mind and body. But this cannot be had unless play is conducted in the right moral environment."



HAULING CINDERS FOR UNDER FLOOR  
Peru, Ind.

CHARLES L. STELZLE

# Home Play--IV

EDNA G. MEEKER AND CHARLES H. ENGLISH

## NEIGHBORS' PLAY NIGHT

As the Brown family added new features to their home evenings their fame spread abroad and the neighbors became interested. So many inquiries came that it was decided to invite five or six neighborhood families and have a neighbors' play night. The party was a huge success and by enthusiastic consent a neighborhood club was organized, the members agreeing to meet twice a month, going to each other's homes. Father Brown was elected president. The plan which he put into effect was somewhat as follows:

### *Building an Evening Play Program*

The evening was so planned that there was something doing from the minute the first individual arrived until the end. The following illustration describes it graphically:

Sustained interest and excitement, as Father Brown explained, are the greatest elements going to make up a successful evening's entertainment. There are two climaxes to be reached. If the party begins at eight o'clock there may be five or six games leading up to the first climax. Following the active games may come a stunt which gives opportunity for a rest for the majority. Up to nine o'clock the games and programs are under leadership. At that point the time has arrived for relaxation and no leadership. Refreshments are served and familiar groupings of friends will be seen. A few songs may now be sung by the group. At nine-thirty the program is continued. This time the games are much more active with the competition element very strong. Four or five games are played and the climax of the evening is reached at ten-thirty. Then comes a stop. Those who wish to go home may now do so without embarrassment. A few may want to stay and sing around the piano, but the formal part of the program is over. All will go home with a feeling of satisfaction and will want to come again. The secret of this lies in the fact that the program has not been dragged out; that it has been active

without tiring the group through the introduction of stunt intervals for rest.

### *Refreshments*

Refreshments are an expression of hospitality which heretofore have been almost a necessary part of an evening's program. Now social games and stunts are known in such numbers, or are so easily obtained, that there is no longer the old need of falling back on food to please one's guests. The spirit of hospitality will carry without it and it will not even be missed if the program is sufficiently entertaining. Further, the serving of refreshments deters many hospitably-minded folks from entertaining in their homes. It is well, therefore, in arranging for neighborhood parties to be careful about making a precedent which will defeat, even in a small measure, the results desired.

If it is decided not to have refreshments there need not be such a long interval as has been indicated between games and there may be more group singing with perhaps some solo work. A reading, too, might be enjoyed here.

### *What to Do with the First Arrivals*

A large part of the success of the Brown's neighborhood parties was due to the family's realization of the fact that their responsibility as hosts began when the first individual arrived. Someone was sure to come before the hour set, but he was not made to do penance by having the family album thrust upon him! Instead he was put in charge of the "Ghost" corner.

For this a table supplied with ink, soft ink paper pad and a stub pen are needed. As the guests arrive each is asked to write his name on a piece of paper, making the lines very heavy. The paper is then folded quickly, the name being bisected in the process and pressed together. When opened the lines and blotches form queer ghost-like figures. The paper is pinned on a line nearby. Later a guessing contest may be held to identify the ghosts.

The second arrival is given the task of supervising coin snatch. For this a calling card is balanced on the end of the middle finger and a

quarter is placed on the card just over the tip of the finger. Then the card is snapped from the finger, the object being to leave the coin on the finger.

In the dining room another stunt is arranged for the third person arriving. This is called *Handkerchief and Pencil Stunt*. A pencil is placed in the middle of the handkerchief which is folded diagonally with the pencil rolled in it. Then the handkerchief is unrolled to see if the pencil is inside or outside. Probably it will be inside. The trick used to get it outside is as follows: When picking up the corner of the handkerchief to fold diagonally it is thrown over about an inch beyond its opposite corner, thus concealing the pencil in the center. With the pencil as a center the handkerchief is rolled over and over until it is entirely wrapped. This rolling continues several times. Then it is unrolled and the handkerchief will be on the outside. The corners are not touched during the rolling or unrolling process.

A series of squares are marked off on the floor by means of a cord if the floor cannot without injury be marked with chalk. In each square a number is placed indicating its numerical value as:

|   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 3 | 2 | 5 |
| 0 | 4 | 6 | 1 |

The guests stand about ten feet from the square and throw five beans to a square. A score-keeper is needed to give credit to each player for the score he makes. This game gives two or more guests something to do.

As the members of the group gather they go from one stunt to another and after they have enjoyed them they will become interested spectators and have as much pleasure as the participants. By this time all the guests will have arrived and the evening program begins.

#### THE PROGRAM

##### Part I

All join hands and form a double circle, the men on the outside, the women on the inside. The women turn about and face the men, each one acknowledging the man in front of her as her partner. The leader takes his position inside the circle and leads in a series of stunts. Each man in the outside circle must do a stunt first for the benefit of his partner. She, in turn,

does the same stunt for his benefit. Then all the men move to the right, thereby acquiring a new partner. If they are not acquainted the new partners introduce themselves. The leader then gives out a new stunt which is acted out after the same procedure. This continues as long as is desired.

#### Stunts

1. Each guest is requested to cross arms taking hold of his nose with one hand and his ear with the other. The leader then orders a quick reversal of hands.

2. Each guest rubs his stomach with a wide circular motion with one hand, at the same time patting his head with the other.

3. One partner extends his arms straight out in front of his body crossing the wrists. Hands are rotated outwardly so that the palms come together. Fingers are clasped. The hands, still clasped, are brought outward, then inward and up near the chin. The other then points to the finger he wishes moved. Almost invariably the wrong finger moves.

4. The partner doubles his fists placing one on top of the other. The other partner takes his two index fingers, extends them, and moving them simultaneously but from opposite directions knocks one fist off the other in spite of the pressure used to hold them together.

5. One partner imitates some animal by action or call; the other guesses which it is.

6. With the weight of the body on the left foot, the right foot is swung in a circular movement clockwise. After a momentum has been gained the attempt is made with a finger to describe an imaginary six in front of one's partner without changing the direction of the swinging foot.

7. One partner whistles a portion of a song; the other tries to guess it.

8. Each guest makes a circle with one hand in front of the chest. With the other hand he makes a circle in the opposite direction, attempting to keep both hands going simultaneously.

9. The guests are asked to see how many times they can spin round on one toe without letting the other toe touch the floor. Next, each spins on one heel with the other foot held from the floor.

10. One partner assumes a sober expression while the other tries to make him laugh by all kinds of stunts. Neither is allowed to touch the other.

11. One partner places both hands on the side of his head with thumbs on ears and fingers spread, imitating the so-called Elk sign or a donkey ear movement. At the same time the other partner imitates some musical instrument, such as the violin. The object of the first partner is to change quickly to catch the second partner doing the same stunt. He has the privilege of dropping his hands from his head to imitate the instrument. The other partner must immediately imitate the ear motion. This is continued until one catches the other making the same motions.

12. The women now step to one side and the men take partners giving the "Story of Harry" as follows: "Hello, Chester"—(strikes partner on chest). "Have you 'eard (pulls ear) the story of 'arry (pulls hair)? They had need (bump partner's knee) of his feats (step on foot) in the army (strike arm). I know it (poke finger in eye) everyone knows it (pull his nose). Hip, hip, hurrah" (slap him on hips).

*The Englishman's Version.* "Hi there! Harry recently returned from the trenches. They demanded his services in the militia. So they told me. It's a matter of common observation. Oh gee, but it's great!"

#### Some Novel Contests

*Lemon, Lemon, Lemon.* All form a circle. Each must learn the first name of his neighbors. Two leaders step into the circle. Each dashes at any member of the circle and yells "lemon" three times. The person thus attacked must yell the first name of either neighbor before the third "lemon" is spoken. If he fails he must go into the circle and be "It," the leader becoming one of the circle.

*Scouting for Words.* Letters of the alphabet are printed on pieces of cardboard, one letter on each piece. It is advisable to make a double set. The leader starts by saying that they are all going shopping and that as cards are flashed before them and the letter given the first one who mentions something beginning with that letter which may be purchased at the place they are visiting will receive the card. A trip may be taken to the market, the grocery store, hardware store and other shops, several things being purchased in each place. At the end of the game the individual or the side, if it is played as a team contest, holding the most cards win. Other subjects may be used in the same way, such as

the names of automobiles, the names of people present, rivers in America and other objects.

*Ocean Wave.* The group is arranged in a circle, the men and women alternating. There is one vacant chair. The leader stands in the center of the circle. He announces: "Change right or change left" and the person next the vacant chair moves into it, the next in circle sits in his chair. The leader endeavors to secure a vacant chair and person left out when this is done then becomes leader. Moves must not take place until the chair beside a player is vacant.

#### *Quiet Games*

*Spoon Pictures.* This requires two people as confederates. One is sitting in the circle, the other, as leader, leaves the room. Someone is chosen to take a spoon and with it to make a picture of someone in the group. Holding the spoon before the guest whose picture he decides to take, he snaps his finger twice. The leader is then called in and the spoon handed to him. It is his task to discover whose picture has been reflected in the spoon. Very cautiously while looking around the circle he keeps glancing at the confederate who is taking the position of, or otherwise mimicking the guest whose picture has been taken.

*Coat Relay.* The guests form in two lines, each having the same number of people. Two large overcoats are provided. Two chairs are placed some distance from the leaders of the lines. The relay is then run off in this manner: —The one in front of the line puts on the coat, runs around the chair and back to line, takes off the coat and gives it to number two, who repeats the performance. As each one hands the coat to the next, he goes to the rear of the line. The side finishing first wins.

*Refreshments.* It is suggested that for refreshments lemonade or fruit punch be put in pop bottles and straws provided. Animal crackers may be served tied in squares of different colored tissue paper.

#### *Part II*

*Guess Who?* A sheet is hung in a doorway. One half the group which has been divided into two teams goes behind the sheet. One at a time each member of the group sticks his nose through a small hole in the sheet. The other side guess to whom the nose belongs. A record is kept

of the order of showing and of the guesses. Later, the other team may use eyes for exhibit purposes.

*Rapid Pass.* The players form a circle. *Four or five articles* are distributed to different parts of the circle. Such articles may include a broom, a hairpin, waste paper basket or a book. As music is played on the piano or victrola these articles must be passed around. Those holding the articles when the music stops must drop out of the game.

*Charade.* The players are divided into groups of four or five. Each group is given a word to act in pantomime and three minutes in which to prepare for it. A suggested list follows:

|              |                   |
|--------------|-------------------|
| Automobile   | —Ought-oh-mob-eel |
| Aeroplane    | —Air--oh-plane    |
| Stationary   | —Station-airy     |
| Handkerchief | —Hand-cur-chief   |
| Infancy      | —In-fan-sea       |
| Forswear     | —Four-swear       |
| Antidote     | —Aunt-I-dote      |
| Penitent     | —Pen-eye-tent     |
| Cabbage      | —Crib-age         |
| Masquerade   | —Mass-cur-aid     |
| Bookworm     | —Book-worm        |
| Knapsack     | —Nap-sack         |

*Going to Jerusalem.* The players are arranged in two groups, one group being stationed down the room in a double file. One of these players is asked to play the piano. The other group now forms a circle around the center group. Members of the center group place their outside hands on their hips, thus forming loops pointing toward the circle players. The circle players march around to the music. When the music stops each one grabs for an arm of someone in the stationary group. The individual failing to secure an arm drops out. The group thus diminishes until all but one are eliminated from each team. These two are crowned king and queen of Jerusalem.

*Bottle Fortune.* All players are seated in a circle. The leader secures a milk bottle and places it in the center of the floor lying on its side. He then asked a question, beginning with: "Who," as "Who is the best baseball player" and "Who is the handsomest person in the room?" He then spins the bottle. When it stops spinning it will be pointing toward one of the group. That person is then proclaimed the answer to the question. He then takes the place in the middle of the room and starts to spin the bottle.

*Weavers' Relay.* The players form in two lines, each containing the same number. The contestants stand about three feet apart, facing front. Number one in each team at the word "Go" runs down the line in and out between the players in a weaving fashion. Coming back in the same way he takes his original place. This is a signal for number two to start. He must, however, circle around number one on coming back, thus making the complete round. All players run and the first group to finish wins.

*Tangle Foot.* The players are divided into two equal groups and line up facing each other. Each is provided with a pie tin. The leader who stands at the head of the lines ties a ball of yarn to some object by him. He then gives the ball to one player who tosses it to a player opposite, thus starting the game. The ball is tossed back and forth until it is unwound. At no time must the hands touch the ball. If it falls to the ground the player must pick it up with his tin. Care must be taken not to break the cord. Anyone breaking it is out of the game, but must stay in line. After the ball is unwound three minutes are given the players to free themselves from the cord without breaking it. That side wins which has the most number of players free at the end of the time period.

It is well to close the party with the group singing around the piano, ending with all players forming a circle, clasping hands and singing *Till We Meet Again* or *Auld Lang Syne*.

Atlantic City is a wonderful place in October, and the wisest and best of the recreation world will be on hand. Can you afford to miss it?

# Dramatics on the Summer Playground

GENEVIEVE TURNER HOLMAN

To develop dramatics as an art form concentrated work with small groups is required. Just how advisable this is for the summer playground is a question of opinion. Some believe that during the summer vacation long periods should not be given to a form of recreation so passive as is dramatics. Others advocate an outdoor theater for every playground. The Baltimore Playground Association operates both a children's theater and a community theater on the municipal pier.

Certain requirements, it is believed, must be met before a dramatic program can be carried out on the summer playground. The first is leadership. There should be, many feel, a special leader free to work with a few children at a time. The play leader responsible for general activities is too busy to attempt this and very often is not equipped to direct the children in this activity.

Experience has shown that through such dramatic institutes as Community Service conducts it is possible to train dramatic leaders. It is important, however, that those taking the course shall have had some previous training, experience or participation in dramatic activities. College girls, for example, who have taken part in club dramatics or coached plays may receive training through such institutes which will enable them to give valuable service as volunteer leaders of playgrounds. Or they may be employed as part time workers at a nominal sum. More and more training schools, colleges and other educational institutes are introducing short, intensive courses in dramatic activities. As a result dramatic leaders will in the future be more easily secured.

The second requirement, many feel, is an outdoor setting which will make it possible for voices to be heard by the audience. Without this it is useless to put on a play, pageant or festival in which the understanding of the plot depends upon the spoken line.

If leadership and proper settings are to be had, then dramatics may well be given a place in the summer program. If used the organization of dramatics should coincide with the gen-

eral plan of organization for playground activities. A few suggestions follow:

## *The Organization of Playground Groups*

There may well be a number of groups or clubs studying plays which they may put on informally. Parts should be assigned so that the boy or girl may have the development which comes from representing a character whose qualities it is desirable for him to study and appreciate. For the public performance of a play, however, the children should be cast in the parts they are best fitted to play. Such a performance must be artistic, for only in this way can a high standard of appreciation be developed.

## *Plays*

*For Children.* It is well for children to be given an opportunity to express their dramatic instincts before they reach the self-conscious age of ten or eleven years. Plays chosen for them should have literary and art values. The best subjects are from mythology and narrative history.

*For Adults.* If there is indoor space a social or athletic group is able often times to put on a play by making its own arrangements for leadership. A play will frequently attract newcomers who will later become interested in other activities.

## *Pageants*

Pageants as well as dramatics require conditions which every playground cannot meet, they are particularly suited for general community participation and are best worked out by using local organizations as units.

When a play leader is successful in securing community responsibility for pageants they may well be undertaken. There is danger, however, in holding pageants too often. Every few years a pageant arouses community interest as nothing else will, but it should be alternated with other community projects.

## *A Story Play Festival*

The story play festival is the most practical form of dramatic exhibition for the average

playground. The story is presented through action, gesture, dancing and games and there are no spoken parts; hence there need be no arrangements for acoustics. The story play festival can easily be put on by the regular play leader in charge of general playground activities because it is in line with the regular playground program. It is not limited to the story play group but may take in all ages and groups of playground attendants.

Some practical suggestions for a festival follow:

*How to Organize a Festival Group.*

Announce a festival group by attractive posters. Let the regular story play group be a nucleus, but since this is apt to be composed largely of small children it is better to form a new group which will bring in older boys and girls and adults.

Divide the group into committees, making each responsible for definite preparations. Let one committee help choose and adapt the subject of the festival, another plan costumes and still another choose dances, games and entertainment features. It will often be less difficult for the leader to do the work herself than to rely on committees, but it is very valuable for the participants to share the responsibility.

*How to Provide Costumes.\** Costuming often presents a difficult problem on the playground. It is obviously undesirable for the honor of being a royal character to fall to the child who can furnish a royal robe and there is often danger that this may happen. The best plan for the provision of costumes is for the playground to have a wardrobe. But very often the governing board in charge of playgrounds does not furnish such perishable equipment as costumes though occasionally it will supply costumes for some general event in which all the playgrounds are represented. The individual playground should provide a way of keeping in a neat and sanitary condition any costumes which thus fall to its lot. They will furnish a nucleus for a playground wardrobe.

In some neighborhoods the play leader can secure the cooperation of women's clubs or other groups in helping to furnish and make costumes for playground purposes. Members of

such groups will often give the playground costumes they have at home which have been made for school and other programs.

A playground wardrobe need not be expensive. It should not attempt to cover all historical periods. It is important only that there shall be set of costumes suitable for the medieval, mythological and symbolical themes which so frequently form the basis of children's festivals and story plays. Such a set may consist of a king's robe of scarlet or purple cambric edged with ermine (cotton stained with ink); a queen's robe to match; two crowns of pasteboard covered with gold paper; a princess' costume of a slip and long cape in delicate and contrasting colors of cheesecloth; a prince's costume of knickers, jacket with puffed sleeves and cape; capes of colored cambric and fancy hat for court gentlemen; long capes, slips in bright colors, high cornucopia shaped hats with veils of cheesecloth falling from their tops for court ladies; a jester's costume with breeches and sleeves of contrasting color; smocks and belts for guards with helmets, shields, swords and spears covered with silver paper. Gymnasium bloomers and children's knickers serve as breeches for the men's costumes.

Peasants' costumes must suggest the national costumes of the countries they represent. Giraffes, boleros and smocks can be interchangeably used for several different kinds of costumes, but aprons and caps are distinctive and must be correct as to colors and shape.

Girls frequently have their own' cheesecloth or silkaline slips in bright colors which they use in dancing. A few extra slips of this sort make costumes for various Greek and symbolical characters. Fairy wings can be simulated by triangular pieces of the same material of which the slip is made. One corner is fastened to the shoulder, another to a band around the wrist.

*How to Select Festivals*

In selecting festivals it is important to take into consideration whether or not they are to be used for a festival in which all the playgrounds combine or whether they are adapted to smaller groups and are better used in a single playground. A festival of the first type is to be found in *A Day at Nottingham* by Constance D'Arcy Mackay.\* In it the theme of Robin Hood is interwoven with folk dances, songs and

\*See *Inexpensive Costumes for Plays, Festivals and Pageants* by Nina B. Lamkin which may be secured from the Playground and Recreation Association of America, One Madison Avenue, New York City. Price \$2.50.

\*This may be secured from the Playground and Recreation Association. Price \$15.

quaint old games. Large numbers of children may take part.

Play leaders may develop their own story play festivals through their festival groups. These may be original themes or adaptations of dramatizations already published. The following may be easily adapted: Goldilocks and the Three Bears, Red Riding Hood, The Shoemaker and the Elves and other pantomimes in *Pantomimes and Tableaux for Children* by Nora Archibald Smith.

Music for almost any festival theme may be found in Mari Hofer's *Music for the Child World*.

#### *The Nature Festival*

Nature is always a suitable subject for a playground festival. The cycle of the seasons can be used at any time of the year. All seasons are represented in the cycle but the climax is in the season which is being celebrated. It gives opportunity to bring in many small children as little seed elves whom mother earth keeps warm and cozy during winter, as sun fairies, wind fairies, rain fairies, snow fairies and frost elves. Numerous characters may be introduced for the older boys and girls.

Among other festivals Miss Mari Hofer's nature festival and harvest festival will be found suggestive to play leaders.

One of the most successful of Detroit's playground pageants was the garden pageant portraying the nature theme from the social and patriotic point of view.

#### *Tableaux*

Tableaux may be successfully utilized in connection with festivals for team, class and club social occasions.

Among other sources of information on tableaux is *Plays, Pantomimes and Tableaux for Children* by Nora Archibald Smith. There is also considerable material for use at boys' entertainment programs and in some festivals. These tableaux, showing what boys have accomplished before they were sixteen years of age may include the following:

Marcus of Rome—The Boy Magistrate; Brian of Munster—The Boy Chieftain; Olaf of Norway—The Boy Viking; William of Normandy—The Boy Knight; Baldwin of Jerusalem; The Boy Crusader; Frederick of Hohenstaufen—The Boy Emperor; Harry of Monmouth—The Boy General; Giovanni of Florence—The Boy Cardinal; Ixtlil of Tezcoco—The

Boy Cacique; Louis of Bourbon—The Boy King; Charles of Sweden—The Boy Conqueror; Van Rensselaer of Rensselaerswyck—The Boy Patron.

### New York's Reorganized Recreation Committee Studies School Building Program

A reorganization has recently taken place in the New York City Recreation Committee, a completely independent body, with power vested in delegates elected by various city agencies. The services of an executive secretary have been secured for at least one year, and the scope of the Committee's activities has been enlarged to include aid to community organizations in recreation matters.

The objects and functions of the Committee are:

To work toward the adoption of a comprehensive recreation plan for Greater New York

To serve as a citizens' organization in promoting and safeguarding the public recreation interests of Greater New York

To provide the means of keeping the organizations that are interested in public recreation in touch with all matters affecting public, private and commercial recreation interests throughout the city

To bring about concerted action on such questions as from time to time arise influencing the provision of facilities for public recreation and the character of their administration

To work through its executive and its affiliated organizations to secure adequate appropriations for the extension, upkeep and operation of all public recreation facilities

To advise with and prepare recreation programs for community organizations and other agencies carrying on recreation activities

It has been decided that the present task of the Committee will be a study of plans now drawn up as well as proposed plans for the construction of new school buildings in New York City. The committee hopes to work closely with the authorities in the matter, cooperating with them wherever possible. It will endeavor to get all the constructive criticisms possible and present them to the officials in a helpful way. A sub-committee on Construction of New School Buildings has been formed under the leadership of Clarence A. Perry of the Russell Sage Foundation.

## "Find Yourself Campaign" in Shreveport, La.

Shreveport, La., has just conducted a "Find Yourself Campaign" in the Shreveport High School. Questionnaires were distributed which were calculated to indicate what were the tastes and ambitions of each pupil. He was asked how he spent his leisure time; whether he played any musical instrument; the line of work he was most interested in; whether he was preparing for his life work in any way; whether he planned to go to college; whether he was willing to work his way through college; what one thing in his opinion Shreveport most needed, and various other questions.

The answers to the last question were especially interesting. One hundred fourteen thought the city most needed well equipped junior and senior high schools. By "well equipped" was meant a modern building with auditorium, gymnasium, swimming pool, library, dining room and club rooms. Seventy-three thought the greatest need was a public library, 51 voted for more parks, 22 for an athletic club, 5 for "wholesome amusement," 4 for an opera house, 3 for an auditorium and 1 for "more smiles."

This questionnaire is to be followed up by getting together groups of students by their chosen professions and securing the best speakers available in each line of work.

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## A Community Center for Ithaca's Women

A house which something over a year ago became the property of the federated organizations of Ithaca, N. Y., has been transformed into a real community center for the women and girls of the city. Hardwood floors, new hangings and comfortable chairs have made it very home-like and attractive.

Activities at the community building appeal to a diversity of women's interests. For those who like athletics, there are tennis classes, conducted in cooperation with the school playgrounds, and gymnasium, swimming and basketball classes, conducted in cooperation with the Y. M. C. A.; Classes in dancing and dramatics afford opportunities for self-expression, while

Sunday musical entertainments and supervised social dancing provide wholesome recreation.

Domestic arts have a prominent place in the program. Because of the sewing and millinery classes organized with the aid of the Home Bureau and the Home Economics Department of Cornell University, the wardrobes of many Ithaca girls have become more artistic and less expensive.

Particular attention is given to the interests of mothers, a course of lectures having been arranged through the courtesy of the Home Economics Department of Cornell. During Baby Week at the community house, a model nursery was temporarily established with nurses in charge. Literature was distributed and mothers heard practical talks on the care of young children.

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## Buffalo Recreation Survey

(Continued from page 225)

with those which the children of other cities enjoy is illuminating. Moreover, only ten of the twenty-five playgrounds are adjacent to schools, less than half of them are properly equipped, and only four of them are open the year round. So far as distribution is concerned, no playgrounds are found in the great section of our city south of the Buffalo River. Moreover, the great and growing residential section supplementing the industry in the Black Rock section is very poorly supplied. That section of our city lying east of Main Street and north of Broadway has only two small public playgrounds. There are several sections of our city absolutely delimited as separate, thickly-settled communities on account of being walled in on all sides by railroad yards, which are absolutely without playground facilities.

From reports in other cities it is found that sixty per cent of the juvenile delinquency is confined to the congested districts and that the establishment of local playgrounds show a very marked reduction in the number of cases of juvenile delinquency.

It is the judgment of our committee that this problem of supplying play spaces for the children in the thickly congested districts should be given immediate and intensive attention.

(To be continued)

## Plant Exchange Day

Yards and gardens of Shreveport, Louisiana, will have a surprising variety of bloom because of Plant Exchange Day, recently promoted by Community Service and the Garden Club of the Women's Department Club. On this day all sorts of flowers, plants, vines and vegetables changed hands at the City Hall.

Amateur horticulturists who donated choice specimens found that they did not cast them upon the community in vain, for they could avail themselves of many fascinating things their neighbors had. The old lady who brought in some bulbs from her famous rain lily bore away triumphantly that cutting of "Wandering Jew" she had long been wanting. The business man who gave some plants of his special "Big Boston" lettuce found that "Dorothy Perkins" was the name of those pink roses that bloom in bunches, and decided to take home a slip and start it near his front porch. In the afternoon the school children came, eager to annex interesting new things to grow in their summer gardens.

The entire third floor of the City Hall was filled with tables of plants and cuttings, which were neatly wrapped and labelled. Women of the club told how to plant and to care for the varieties on their tables. All sorts of flowers and vegetable seeds were given away in the seed department. Care was taken to see that the plants were free from disease, the State Entomologist inspecting them all before they were placed on the tables.

Not only did Plant Exchange Day widen the repertoire of the city's little gardens, but it interested many who could not have gardens in planting a particularly enticing shrub or in planning window boxes or a miniature flower bed. Such a day is a very definite means of city beautification.

## A Municipal Gymnasium and Swimming Pool

(Continued from page 209)

time and when they are full of water they are usually so swift and dangerous that swimming is seldom possible. The large irrigation dams are few and far between and the owners seldom allow boys to swim in them on account of the dangers of deep water, mud and the suction of the sluice ways. If nothing else would warrant the

erection of such a building, the swimming pool feature alone is well worth the expense. During the summer there are over 100 men and women who use the pool every day and during the winter the average attendance runs between fifty and seventy-five.

Such a building has innumerable uses. The board of education is very liberal in this respect and every worthy cause can find some time to use the building. The Boy Scouts, Sunday Schools, all elementary schools, various clubs, men's and women's gymnasium classes, independent basketball and tennis teams and the high school basketball team all have free use of the gymnasium.

## Music for America

(Continued from page 196)

snored. No plutocrat, not the most "hard-shelled" capitalist, ever looked with a more lordly feeling of superiority upon the benighted poor than I did upon that snoring rich man.

### AMERICA'S UNLIMITED POSSIBILITIES

It has been said by a foreign observer that America is "the land of unlimited possibilities." And that is true. The saying was meant in a material sense, but it is equally applicable in a spiritual sense. Underneath the crudeness, the newness, the strident jangle, the jazz-iness and Main Street-ness of our young country, there lies all the raw material of a great cultural and artistic development. In this vast country, with its multifarious mixture of races, all thrown into the melting pot of American traditions, soil, climate and surroundings, every kind of talent is latent. All we have to do in order to bring it to fruition is to call to it, to look for it, and to extend to it guidance, support and opportunity.

American energy, enterprise, vision and daring have produced, on this new continent, a material development which has astonished the old world. If, as I trust and believe will come to pass, we will give to art that full scope and place and honor to which it is entitled, if we make it widely and easily accessible to the people, if we afford serious encouragement, fostering attention and adequate opportunity to worthy aspirations and genuine talent, and due reward to true merit, we shall, I am convinced, astonish the world and ourselves by the greatness and intensity of the manifestation of the American spirit in art.

## More About the Recreation Congress

Have you made your reservation for the Recreation Congress at Atlantic City, October 9-12? If you do not act quickly, you will not be one of the fortunate 175 to stay at Haddon Hall, for letters which reach the office daily indicate a large and enthusiastic attendance.

### DELEGATES

There will be delegates from California, Washington, Texas and other far away states. Not the least interesting feature of the registration is the diversity of interests reached in the groups sending delegates. Recreation commissioners and superintendents will naturally form one of the largest groups present, but there will also be many representatives from settlements, civic organizations and similar groups. Rotary and Kiwanis Clubs, Chambers of Commerce, Women's Clubs, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Camp Fire Girls and many other groups are arranging for participation. So universal is the appeal of the recreation movement, so many and varied the mutual problems, that here at the Recreation Congress will be a common meeting ground for groups in all fields of work.

### THE PROGRAM

The evening meetings will be inspirational in their scope, and such speakers as Joseph Lee, Arthur Pound, author of *The Iron Man*, and Dr. John H. Finley, will talk on various phases of leisure time activities in their relation to citizenship building. In the morning and afternoon sessions activities of broad general interest, such as community music, community drama, neighborhood organization, the recreational use of parks, the financing of community recreation, home play and international play, will be presented. Discussions at these meetings will be led by such experts in their fields as Professor Dykeman of the University of Wisconsin, Professor Baker of Harvard, Major Welch of the Palisades Interstate Park Commission, and others.

The practical recreation worker and official, and representatives of groups in specialized fields will find in the many section meetings and round-table conferences which are being arranged, a

rare opportunity for an exchange of opinion and experience with other workers. Community wide civic celebrations, rural recreation, industrial recreation, the administration of municipal recreation, the training of workers, problems of equipment, surfacing, the upkeep of grounds, swimming pools, community houses, winter sports, games, athletics, camping, and the many other topics on which new light is constantly being thrown will be thoroughly and practically discussed.

### ACCOMMODATIONS

Readers of THE PLAYGROUND who are considering coming to the Congress are urged to notify the Recreation Congress Committee, One Madison Avenue, New York City, and to make tentative reservations at the Chalfonte-Haddon Hall which is to be the headquarters of the Congress. Information regarding rates at Chalfonte-Haddon Hall and at some of the smaller Hotels of the city may be secured by writing the Committee.

### ARTICLES ON RECREATION IN MAGAZINES RECEIVED

The Journal of the National Education Association, June, 1922:  
 The Seven Ages of Play (A poem)—Charles H. Keene.

Better Times, June, 1922:  
 New York City Recreation Committee Studies School Building Program—LeRoy Bowman.

City Managers' Bulletin, June, 1922:  
 The Results of Recreation in City Manager Cities—Ethel Armes.

American City, June, 1922:  
 The Municipal Swimming Pool in Johnstown—H. Lee Wilson.  
 Municipal Vacation Camps That Work the Year-Round—A description of the year program of Los Angeles Camps.

The Modern City, June, 1922:  
 Long Meadow's New Community Building.

Parks and Recreation, May-June, 1922:  
 Parks as Camping Grounds—Margaret Mochrie.  
 Man and Rural Recreation—Arthur H. Carhart.  
 Parks as Memorials—Clifford N. Cann.  
 "Making Things"—The use of handicraft activities in the Recreation Department.  
 Jackstones.  
 Net Hand Ball Rules.  
 Recreation Department Program for July and August.  
 Detroit's Summer Program.  
 Amateur Athletic Federation of Cook County.  
 Detroit's Fine Community House.  
 Public Camp Grounds in Pennsylvania State Forests.  
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### A Home Talent Water Carnival

(Continued from page 207)

#### Some Little Known Events

Boat races are capable of almost as many variations as are swimming races. All kinds of boats and all degrees of skill or lack of skill in navigation may find a place on this part of the program. A rowing contest for amateurs is always fun—sometimes all the more so if the contestants go around in circles instead of keeping to a straight course. Rowing races with two in a boat, one at each oar often create much amusement as well as excitement, especially if the rowing partners are not well matched. A variation of a straight motor boat race is effected by tying row boats or canoes together and attaching them to motor boats. The motor boat which reaches the goal first with its tail of boats intact wins. Mixed canoe races or row boat races with a boy and a girl for the crew of each boat are usually favorite events. Sailing races, sculling races, canoe tag and canoe tilting are always enjoyed.

In canoe tag one canoe is *it* and tries to tag another by throwing into it a cork ball, inflated rubber cushion or similar object which will float and is light enough not to hurt anyone. Each canoe should have the same number of persons so that odds will be equal. It is best not to use more than three in a boat. Those in the pursued boats must not touch the ball to interfere with its falling into the boat.

A canoe tilt is as exciting as ever were the old time tilts between knights. Each player is armed with a pole ten or a dozen feet long of bamboo. The ends are well but lightly padded, covered with rubber sheeting and sealed with electric tape. This is important, because if the pads get wet inside the poles will be too heavy to use. Contestants may use either canoes or row boats. The object is to push the other man into the water. It is unfair to grasp the pole of your opponent or to hit below the belt. Much depends upon having a skillful paddler who can keep your craft in the right position for the most effective action.

At the water carnival in Elkhart, Indiana, last year a two-man portage canoe race was introduced. The start was made at a bridge above the city and the finish was at the park where the other water events were held. To make the trip it was necessary to portage canoes around the dam.

The following program of city championship events in Detroit last year afforded varied entertainment and gave men and women and boys and girls of different degrees of skill a chance to compete:

1. Boys 50 yards—Free Style—3 prizes
2. Girls' 50 yards—Free Style—3 prizes
3. Canoe Singles—200 yards—3 prizes
4. Boys' 50 yards—Breast Stroke—3 prizes
5. Girls' 50 yards—Breast Stroke—3 prizes
6. Life Saving Exhibition
7. Boys' Novelty Race—2 prizes
8. Girls' Novelty Race—2 prizes
9. Fancy Diving—Boys and Girls—  
Low board:  
Boys, 2 dives each—3 prizes  
Girls, 2 dives each—3 prizes
- 10-foot board:  
Boys, 6 dives (4 compulsory)—2 prizes  
Girls, 6 dives (4 compulsory)—2 prizes
10. Canoe Race, Doubles—200 yards
11. Men's 50 yards—Free Style—3 prizes
12. Women's 50 yards—Free Style—3 prizes
13. Men's 50 yards—Breast Stroke—3 prizes
14. Women's 50 yards—Breast Stroke—3 prizes
15. Men's 50 yards—Back Stroke—3 prizes
16. Women's 50 yards—Back Stroke—3 prizes
17. Fancy Diving—10 foot board:  
Men, 10 dives—3 prizes  
Women, 10 dives—3 prizes
18. Swimming Exhibitions—Stunts
19. Canoe Tilting and Canoe Bailing—1st and 2d prizes
20. "Surprise"

Descriptions of many varieties of water sports are to be found in the following books:

*At Home in the Water*, by George H. Corsan, published by the Association Press (Young Men's Christian Association).

*Games for Boys*, by G. S. Ripley, Henry Holt & Company.

*Recreational Athletics*, published by Community Service, Incorporated, 315 Fourth Avenue, New York City.

Perhaps the two most important maxims for a committee in charge of a water carnival are, "Give everybody a chance on the program" and "Never let anybody take a chance of meeting with an accident." A water carnival should be an occasion when the school children of different grades show how far they can swim and an occasion for the boys and



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### The Play Movement In The United States

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girls who understand life saving to give exhibitions and a chance for all types of water talent and all degrees of daring to be displayed. The greatest care, however, should be taken in arranging contests to see that the contestants be so classified that no one should ever be participating in an event which is too difficult for him. Only the expert swimmers should be allowed to do stunts and at all times life guards, rafts, and life boats should be ready in case anyone becomes confused in the water. Only by taking no chances whatsoever can the committee be sure that their carnival will not be marred by some accident.

### Physical Education Representatives at the White House (Continued from page 216)

cal education which was included in the Republican Party Platform and the support which you have given this pledge in your subsequent utterances. We call upon you, Mr. President, to lend the power of your personal leadership

for carrying out the program of federal stimulation for speeding up the extension of adequate physical education for all school children."

The President replied graciously as follows: "Mr. Kirby, it is not necessary for me to reply at length. What you say strikes a sympathetic chord in my heart."

Those present were:

Mrs. Isabel Worrell Ball—Women's Relief Corps  
Dr. John Brown—International Y. M. C. A.—Physical Dept.  
Mr. E. Dana Caulkins—Child Conservation League of America  
Mrs. Arthur Ellis—General Federation of Women's Clubs  
Dr. George J. Fisher—Boy Scouts of America  
Mrs. Ernest R. Grant—National Tuberculosis Association  
Mr. E. J. Henning, Mr. John W. Ford—Loyal Order of Moose  
Mr. Alan Johnstone, Jr.—American Social Hygiene Association  
Mr. Gustavus T. Kirby—Playground & Recreation Ass'n of America  
Mr. R. F. Lovett—Community Service  
Mrs. Raymond B. Morgan—American Association of University Women  
Miss Clara D. Noyes—American Nurses' Association  
Mrs. Simon Nye—Council of Jewish Women  
Colonel Palmer Pierce—National Collegiate Athletic Ass'n  
Mr. John Poole—International Ass'n of Rotary Clubs  
Dr. Joseph E. Raycroft—College Physical Directors' Society  
Dr. Dudley B. Reed—American Physical Education Association  
Mr. W. C. Roberts, Mr. Edw. F. McGrady, Mr. Edgar Wallace—American Federation of Labor  
Mr. Frederick W. Rubien—Amateur Athletic Union  
Mr. W. C. Friedgen—American Gymnastic Union  
Dr. Rebecca N. Stoneroad—National Memorial Physical Betterment Bureau  
Mrs. Arthur C. Watkins—National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher Associations  
Miss Ruth White—Girl Scouts of America  
Mrs. A. B. Wiles—Daughters of the American Revolution  
Mrs. E. A. Yost—Women's Christian Temperance Union.

## Book Reviews

SPRING ACTIVITIES IN RELATION TO PHYSICAL EDUCATION IN HEALTH. Published by the Connecticut State Board of Education

The State Board of Education of Connecticut has issued a bulletin on spring activities which is designed for temporary use pending the publication of the complete Physical Education Manual in September. "It is hoped," states the foreword, "that these exercises and activities requiring that pupils be out-of-doors will tend toward the creation of an out-of-door attitude toward physical education. The emphasis is distinctly recreational and conforms to the natural spirit of play so characteristic to childhood."

MANUEL—RELATIF A L'ORGANISATION ET A LA DIRECTION DES TERRAINS DE JEUX. Prepared by Ruth M. Findlay and William A. Wieland

A very important contribution has been made to the playground movement in Europe by the publication in French of a playground manual prepared by Ruth M. Findlay and William A. Wieland of the American Red Cross. Playground programs, suggestions for organization, activities and games for children of various ages, directions for folk dances and similar practical details with which playground workers should be familiar make this manual invaluable to the recreation workers overseas who are now being trained in large numbers.

THE TRAINING OF CHILDREN IN THE CHRISTIAN FAMILY. By Luther Allan Weigle, Horace Bushnell Professor of Christian Nurture, Yale University. Published by the Pilgrim Press, Boston, Massachusetts. Price \$1.50

A book for parents dealing with principles rather than with problems or cases. It does not undertake to present ready-made formulas for the training of children, but aims to help parents to think for themselves. The outline of the book is that of an introductory course prepared and released by the International Sunday School Lesson Committee as one of its elective courses for adult classes. Beginning with a discussion of the family and the problems of the modern home, the succeeding chapters deal with the child at play, at work, and at study and conclude with a consideration of the child in relation to the church.

GIRL SCOUT PAMPHLETS. Published by National Girl Scout Headquarters, 189 Lexington Avenue, New York City.

### Community Service for Girl Scouts

Types of activities which girls of Scout age may undertake as part of their responsibilities as members of the community. "The strength of scouting will depend not so much upon the activities within the movement as upon the degree to which the Scouts become self-conscious members of the community taking responsible parts in community projects," says the writer.

Some of the activities suggested are:

Friendly services to individuals or families

Cooperation with other civic organizations (caring for little children on the playgrounds, serving school lunches, being responsible to certain districts during clean-up weeks)

Bird protection

Protection of wild flowers and other plants

Elimination of gypsy and brown tail moss

### Introductory Training Course of Girl Scout Officers

Contains useful material for leaders of Scout troops

### The Citizen Scout

Activities for Citizen Scouts, that is, Scouts over 17 years of age



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**His Majesty,**  
**Young America**

*For thirty years outfitters of  
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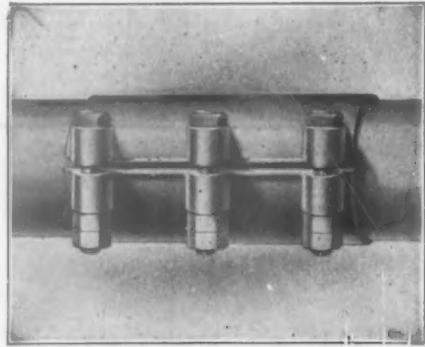
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## MANY PEOPLE WITNESS MAY DAY PROGRAM

At least 750 persons attended for third and fifth places. Ed the May day exercises by the ward Williamson, of Central, won school children of the city at the this race. Sheridan Pyles came



announcement of the race was in only a few seconds more time than that of some experienced col-

and while the children were being assembled, the large crowd was entertained by several victrola selections reproduced by a large concert machine loaned by the W. F. Frederick Piano company store was here. The big instrument sent the notes sounding loudly over a large area and the several selections were heard by everyone within the boundaries of the Legion field. The music was also kept up while the various exercises were being performed.

the racing contests that were held in the West Grafton field. The large crowd was entertained by several victrola selections reproduced by a large concert machine loaned by the W. F. Frederick Piano company store was nothing to mar the success of the instrument sent the the event.

reproduced by a large concert machine loaned by the W. F. Frederick Piano company store was nothing to mar the success of the instrument sent the the event.

### May Day Exercises

Grafton, West Virginia  
Public Schools  
Using the

### Victrola XXV

We could not reproduce this photograph large enough to give an adequate idea of the crowd gathered at Grafton's May Day Fete; yet a single Victrola XXV (scarcely visible in the picture) furnished the music for hundreds of children all over the large field to dance and perform their exercises!



Victrola XXV  
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School Instrument



Educational  
Department

Victor Talking Machine Co., Camden, New Jersey

Many cities are now extending their leisure time facilities to include summer camps where the delights of out-of-doors are

available at slight expense. These pictures represent the camp conducted by Stockton, California.



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